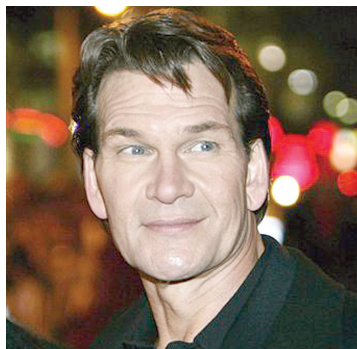




Price of a barrel
of petroleum

US\$ 68.86
.43



In this Nov. 28, 2005 file photo, actor Patrick Swayze poses for the photographers, prior to the premiere of his new film "Keeping Mum" at a Leicester Square cinema in central London. Swayze's publicist Annett Wolf says the 57-year-old "Dirty Dancing" actor died Monday, Sept. 14, 2009, after a nearly two-year battle with pancreatic cancer.

Associated Press

Publicist: Patrick Swayze dies at 57

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Patrick Swayze has died after a nearly two-year battle with pancreatic cancer.

Swayze's publicist Annett Wolf says the 57-year-old "Dirty Dancing" actor died Monday with family at his side. He came forward about his illness last spring, but continued working as he underwent treatments.

It was 1987 when Swayze became a star with his performance in "Dirty Dancing," a coming-of-age story set in a Catskills resort in New York. The 1990 film "Ghost" cemented his status as a screen favorite.

Swayze played a murdered man trying to communicate with his fiancée through a spirit played by Whoopi Goldberg.

He kept on working even after it was disclosed in March 2008 that he had a particularly deadly form of cancer. He starred in "The Beast," an A&E drama series, and said he and his wife were working on a memoir.

More on Page B2

Entire Week of Fun Activities for All Three Housekeeping Departments

Marriott Celebrates 14th Annual Housekeeping Week



PALM BEACH – This week, the Housekeeping Departments of the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, Marriott's Ocean Club and Marriott's Surf Club celebrated International Housekeeping week. Celebrations started on Sunday September 13th continuing to their annual breakfast celebration in the Grand Ballroom on Monday morning.

The t-shirt ballroom breakfast

was prepared by the events and catering department of the hotel, while all three properties of the Marriott came together to celebrate. As like years in the past, the Housekeeping Department hosted a delegation of VIP guest speakers who came to thank the women and men for the hard work they do every day to help Aruba maintain the status as a number one tourist destination.



Guests included Senator and MPA Party Leader Monica Kock; Dr. Richard Visser, who is a retired senator and is back in the running for a seat again with AVP; Senator Arthur Dowers (AVP), who says he can relate very much with the housekeeping department because his mother was a housekeeping associate for many years and is thankful everyday for what she added to his education.

The Marriott also had the honor of guest speaker Carl Giel (MEP), head of the labor department and aspiring politician, who also started his career in the hotel industry many years ago at the Concord Hotel now known as the Westin Aruba Resort. The VIP guest stripped down from their suits and ties to wear Marriott Housekeeping celebration t-shirts. After this glorious breakfast they all celebrated with prayer.

The Monday morning celebration was organized by Rachell Winterdal, Asst. Housekeeping Manager; Jaime Erasmus, House



Keeping Manager; Asucena Willems and many more volunteers this will be a week of international celebration trough out the world for all house keepers around the world. □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~



Fishes & More takes seafood dining up a notch



Fishes & More is currently taking seafood dining up to a higher level by renovating their kitchen, bar and indoor dining room. In the same time, the owners don't want to deprive patrons of their fantastic dishes, so they've created a special Grill -Style ambiance and new menu for everyone to enjoy.

Fishes & More specializes in fresh fish and seafood, and at the same time please the non-fish lovers as well. The "Grill" menu includes



Salads, Soups, Catch of the Day, Filet Mignon, Grilled Shrimp, Rib Eye, and Surf & Turf.

All the dishes are prepared a la minute by an internationally experienced kitchen team, which gives the twist to their famous dishes. Influences from all over the world are found back

on the menu and they are already well known for the daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes & More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work only with fresh and honest products!

Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike

There is live entertainment every night at 8PM, and even after dinner the

perfect night out continues, as you can shop till you drop since the shops on the friendly square are open until eleven.

See what its like to experience real fresh dining joy with a twist!

Open from 6 pm until 10 pm.

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*"Early Bird: daily 5-7pm
3-course dinner
for \$29.75 per person"*



Experience Papillon's gripping story! Introducing a catching special for the early Birds

PALM BEACH – Henri Charrière, one of the world's most famous prisoners, would surely have had the time of his life at Papillon Restaurant in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort. Nicknamed Papillon because of the butterfly tattoo on his chest, the Frenchman was the first convict to escape from Devil's Island, something that nobody had ever done before. Charrière's thrilling, gripping...

auto-biography has been the concept behind Papillon Restaurant. The décor, the decorations and especially the restrooms wink at the thirteen terrible years Papillon spent in prison in French Guyana. Papillon restaurant's menu reflects the Frenchman's arduous journey to freedom: classic French dishes have been dusted with daring Caribbean flair and are a culinary journey for your taste buds. The spacious outside terrace is perfect for casual fine dining; the iron bars, flecks of rust and stains on the walls make one very glad not to be in Papillon's shoes in the 1940's! Charrière would undoubtedly have loved 'his' place on Aruba: this is luxury living for anyone!

Early Bird

Papillon Restaurant offers a daily Early Bird special. A delicious 3-course meal with a glass of house wine for just \$29.75 per person between 5pm and 7pm

Opening hours

Papillon's opening hours are from 5 pm until midnight. The restaurant's daily specials will be explained by the staff. For reservations, please call 586 5400 or go to www.papillonaruba.com.

Papillon Restaurant is located in The Village, just across from the Radisson Resort.

Papillon
RESTAURANT

Kitchen open every day from 5pm till 10.30pm. Early Bird from 5pm till 7pm.
All major credit cards accepted. Reservations recommended.
Papillon Restaurant @ The Village (across from Radisson).
J.E. Irausquin Blvd 348-A, Palm Beach Tel: 586 5400
Email: reservations@papillonaruba.com Internet: www.papillonaruba.com



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Salamander Holdings Conducts

Successful 8th Annual Fund Raising Drive for children



NOORD – The associates of Salamander Holdings held a successful fundraising drive on Sunday at Imeldahof children's home. The Bake Sale & White Elephant bazaar was organized by the community-conscious staffs who donated cookies and cakes with Candice Pompier, Evelyn Flores, Shirley Blanche, Ana Lanoy, Marlene



Purcell, Carina Molina, Gloria Tujeehut, Cory Talang and Marlynn Hieraal among them.

Generously donating their time as volunteers were Lientje Thomas, Digna Torres, Alma Tagorda, Rowena Banal, Nilo Arcilla, Renelyn Cruz, Julie Partosemito and Chendro Offerman, who tirelessly served the public during the busy event hours. Salamander Holdings staffs would like to thank Martijn Trading for providing the coffee and to S.A.L.S.A., in charge of the music, donated by Gabriela and Paco Ribbink, thank you for the excellent entertainment. All the proceeds from the

Bake Sale and & White Elephant Sale will go to Imeldahof, children's home, in constant need of extra resources for educational projects.

Salamander Holdings operates a chain of fine gift stores among them the Juggling Fish at the Playa Linda Beach Resort, the bathing suit store at Playa Linda Beach Resort, The Lazy Lizard at South Beach Centre, T.H. Palm & Company at the Playa Linda Beach Resort and The Coconut Trading Co. at The Marriott Ocean Club and The Village Mall on Palm Beach, which all stayed open on the day of the fundraiser. □





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Hadicurari hosts youth from Imeldahof orphanage

HADICURARI – The children of the Imeldahof center were welcomed to a fun afternoon with chicken, burgers and fries in the historic atmosphere of the Hadicurari Restaurant located at Aruba's most famous fishing pier on the island. The Queen of Holland, Queen Beatrix visited this location bestowing the honor of being a historic location on Aruba.

At Hadicurari Restaurant, you can enjoy more than just the historic atmosphere; there is great food, sun, sand, wind and most importantly one of the best locations to watch the sun set gently into the sea.

Boasting one of the highest repeat customer rates for the fantastic food and great service, Hadicurari Restaurant is part of the prestigious Aruba Wine and Dine Group. Hadicurari Restaurant is located on the beach of the Marriott Resort next to MooMba Beach. □



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**"FAVI FUNDACION
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Aruba's donkeys find peace at sanctuary

Once a transportation stalwart, redundant animals suffered maltreatment until two islanders stepped in

By Lauren Kramer

It's easy to stick to the beaches when you're visiting the Caribbean isle of Aruba. But head off the beaten track along a dusty road not far from the Arikok National Park and you'll find yourself in the company of gentle-eyed beasts who want nothing more than a loving hand on their back and some kind words.

The donkeys at the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary welcome visitors and approach with curiosity, eager to make their acquaintance. It's been 11 years since their sanctuary was created and in that time they have learned to trust people, despite the years of maltreatment many of these animals have endured.

You can tell a lot about a country by the heart of its people, and in particular, by their collective treatment of the humblest among them. The Aruban donkey was once essential to islanders' transportation, and has been a resident for 500 years, ever since the Spanish introduced them as a form of transportation.

When cars and buses became commonplace on this arid Caribbean isle, the donkeys, who had numbered close to 1,000 in the early 1900s, were rendered redundant. Many locals set their donkeys free or sold them to the circus where they were butchered for tiger food. The government resorted to shooting stray donkeys until by the 1970s there were only 20 left. Fortunately for those remaining donkeys, two local islanders, Ramon Boekhoudt and Mervine Kock, gathered a group of supporters and decided to open a donkey sanctuary in 1997.

"We were compelled to try and help the donkeys after seeing them killed by cars and people, maltreated, poisoned and left to die tied under a tree without water and food," Boekhoudt says.

In the region of Santa Lucia on donated land, they created a refuge of 15,000 square metres where the donkeys could live out their days happily and safely. Today volunteers care

for some 60-odd donkeys. There are still approximately 100 donkeys wandering wild in Aruba.

"We castrate our male donkeys as soon as they arrive now, to prevent further inbreeding," explains Desiree Eldering, a volunteer from Holland who has been working with the donkeys for the past decade. "Our hope is to bring in fresh blood by introducing donkeys from Venezuela or Columbia, either by bringing in a stallion or artificially inseminating the mares."

Eldering loved horses until she met the donkeys and found herself captivated with their friendly nature. She knows them by name and relishes her time spent with them, relaying stories about each one.

"Those two just clicked when we put them in an enclosure together," she says, pointing to two animals huddled close together. "Today they are inseparable."

Some have suffered abuse at the hands of islanders, like the first donkey to arrive at the sanctuary, who had endured boiling water thrown on its back by a group of youths.

The Aruba Donkey Sanctuary hosts school groups and tourists. Its goal is to educate the public about these sweet natured creatures, and in the process, reduce animal maltreatment. It's working and people are changing their ways, says Eldering.

"Ten years ago there were many more stray dogs and cats than there are today on the island," she explains. "There was a time when the veterinarians' offices were empty because people just didn't care if their animals were sick. But today, they do care and those offices are busy."

The non-profit sanctuary, which operates without a cent of funding from the Aruban government, raises funds to care for the donkeys through donations, souvenir shop sales and an adoption program, where members of the public adopt a donkey by paying \$180 for its annual upkeep.

But money remains scarce, and the goal of importing fresh

donkeys from South America to end the inbreeding won't happen without an injection of financial assistance.

"What we need is money to maintain these poor and helpless creatures," Boekhoudt says.

On this blistering hot day on the island, however, their future looks bright and promising. The volunteers are clearly happy to be at the sanctuary, and an hour after its official closing time, visitors are still coming through the gates and receiving a warm welcome from both the donkeys and the volunteers.

We stroke their rough skin, laugh as they try to munch our backpacks and leave with fluffy miniature versions of



these braying creatures.

We hope their life on Aruba will be dominated by benevolence rather than the cruelty of years

past.

Freelance travel writer Lauren Kramer lives in Richmond.

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CILO Lounge opens at the downtown marina



ORANJESTAD – CILO, short for City Lounge just opened facing the Oranjestad Marina at the Renaissance Marketplace. “We’re always there for you,” says Niels Stooter at the helm of the operation promising service at the speed of life, sometimes hurried as patrons walk in for a fast coffee and a short meeting, or leisurely and savored, as they linger over dinner & cocktails with friends, family members or business associates. CILO Lounge was conceived with contemporary consumers in mind, aiming to please their diverse and changing needs from breakfast to lunch, dinner, or snacks in between, with a friendly nonstop food

& beverage flow from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. which is the longest, most extensive on the island. CILO Lounge is new, fresh and inviting. The décor borrowed from the island’s lexicon of images, fitting a retro stone wall over the bar, a sliced giant tree trunk in the center of the dining-room, orange uniform shirts, in honor of the royal Dutch color, a rustic ceiling, and a sweeping Back to Nature color palette, with large glass windows, inviting the marina sea view in, without interruption. The industrial, no skid floor glitters slightly at night as it reflects the indirect light from the ceiling. From the inviting wooden booth at the entrance



to the intimate café furniture, the flat screen TVs and piped-in music, CILO creates a feel-right loungy ambiance where patrons can be themselves, in their many incarnations, here & now, during all hours of the day.

Naturally the menu reflects that philosophical frame of mind, offering a variety of freshly prepared and beautifully plated fried eggs and omelets, melted Dutch Tostis, a great selection of stacked sandwiches on French, ciabatta, wheat or corn bread, innovative Club Sandwiches, creative BLTs, wraps from all four corners of the globe, and jaw-breaking hot sandwiches, including Gyros, Sate, Brie Cheese Nuts & Honey, Steak Sandwiches, and plentiful, classic dinner salads. The all-day dining menu complements lunch & dinner options which list popular hot appetizers such as Au Gratin Mushrooms in herb cream sauce, homemade Crab Croquettes, and Gambas in garlic, and Soups counting fish, tomato and clear oxtail, among many tasty others. From the Cold appetizers, Ocean Carpaccio, Smoked Salmon with herb cream cheese, Carpaccio Land & Fruit, and Duo of Smoked Ham and Melon, become the prelude to the Chef’s main courses which suggest hearty, interesting dishes, paired with an old fashion étagère,



a stacked tower of sides, delivering salad, vegetables, and favorite-style potatoes to the table to be shared. The Chef at CILO Lounge takes food seriously, presenting Stir-Fried Chicken, Spare Ribs with different sauces, Schnitzel, Pork Cutlet with stroganoff sauce, and the much loved Sukade stewed steak, besides Sate with shrimp crackers, peanut sauce and atjar, Porkloin Medallion with a cognac cream sauce, Grilled Ribeye Steak with garlic butter, Striploin with spicy, stir-fried vegetables and pepper sauce and Filet Mignon with fresh mushrooms, all priced reasonably and cooked to order. Seafood lovers will be gratified at CILO Lounge with a fish carte du jour befitting a marina restaurant with Salmon, Wahoo, Mahi Mahi, Grouper and Shrimp on the menu besides just-caught-

by-local-fishermen specials, brought in straight from the dock. CILO welcomes vegetarians, often overlooked in conventional establishments, and kids, with their own dedicated menu, as well as the health-conscious, calorie-counter with a Light & Lively different platter every day! And the desserts deserve a special write-up on their own, especially the Fried Cheese Cake, which is exceptionally good! CILO Lounge offers live music with Duo Close Call on Tuesday evenings, live DJ mixing on Wednesdays and fun Karaoke every Thursday, lending repeat visitors a fresh experience every time. Air-conditioned during the day and with wide open terrace seating in the evening hours, CILO Lounge provides an ever-functional theater for the movie of our life. □



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From the United Kingdom to Aruba

Margaret and Timothy tie the knot in Paradise



DIVI- Margaret Simon and Timothy Felgate vowed their love and became one under Aruba's sunset. The lovebirds are from Waltonon Thames, Surrey, U.K.

They had met in a pub 16 years ago and have been together since. They never got married in all these years and had to listen to family and friends who were always saying

that they had to get married. Timothy & Margaret knew the time was right and decided to wed in Sri Lanka which was their first choice, but because of the situation with the Tamil



Tigers it was not possible to go there so Aruba was chosen because the weather is always good and the pristine beaches. They were in touch with Aruba Weddings For You at Divi Resort who planned their special day.

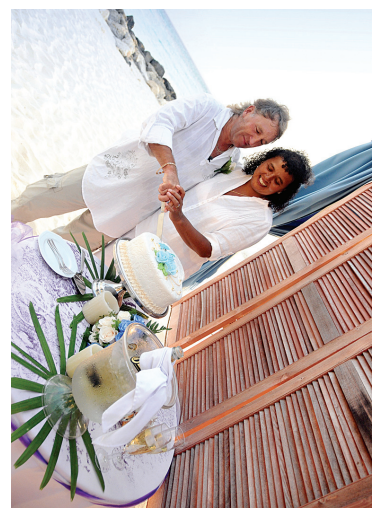
On September 10, 2009, Margaret and Timothy exchanged rings and vowed their love with officiate Greg Lyder who delivered the sermon.

Breathtaking photos were captured by Bella Aruba Photography as the sunset behind the horizon. The newlyweds toasted to

champagne and cut into their wedding cake and enjoyed feeding one another. The romantic dinner took place at Divi Phoenix Sunset Bistro under the stars.

"This was our first time to Aruba, but not our last!, We liked Aruba because of the friendly people, lovely atmosphere and of course great beaches. The wedding was wonderful, more than we had dreamed of. Thank You 'Aruba Weddings For You' for making our special day memorable. □

Photos by Angela Munzenhofer



Bacardi hails success of Americas promotions

Nicole Mezzasalma

The company has run interactive promotional campaigns for Grey Goose vodka and Dewar's whisky in the US, Canada, Aruba and Puerto Rico.

Liquor supplier Bacardi Travel Retail USA has hailed the success of a series of duty-free promotions for Grey Goose vodka and Dewar's Scotch whisky it has launched in the US, Canada, Aruba and Puerto Rico.

Bacardi Travel Retail USA trade manager Mark Halgunseth said the idea behind the campaign was to celebrate the company's premium brands "by creating memorable, interactive experiences" for the consumer.

The Grey Goose Golf

Programme invites customers to attempt to hit a hole in one to win a prize. The promotion was launched with Dufrý Group at Reina Beatrix International airport in Aruba on August 29 to coincide with the ASUTIL conference, and it will run until the end of October. The programme was held in the DFS Galleria store at New York JFK airport terminal four between May and June, moving to the Blue Water Bridge Duty Free store in Ontario, Canada in July, where it will run until the end of September. In October the promotion will return to JFK T4.

Meanwhile, the Dewar's Engraving Programme offers customers of legal drinking age the chance to have their purchased



bottles of Dewar's 12yo, Dewar's 18yo and Dewar's Signature engraved in-store. The promotion was launched with International Shoppes at New York JFK airport T1, where it has

been particularly popular with travellers from Russia, Greece and Asia. The programme was also implemented in Aruba with Dufrý from September 1 and will run at both locations

until the end of October. On July 1 Dewar's Engraving Programme was also introduced with SMT Duty Free in San Juan, Puerto Rico, where it will run until the end of September. □



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Pampered in Paradise at the Hyatt



PALM BEACH - Robert Better and Camille Ciaccio of New York came to Aruba for a vacation, and of course, what better way to really enjoy a wonderful romantic, memorable dinner than being Pampered in Paradise, Hyatt style. While waiting for the appetizers, Robert proposed marriage to Camille, his girlfriend of three years. She said "Yes"! Photos by Diane Keijzer



Birthday celebration leads to surprise engagement



PALM BEACH - Fernando Grisales and Natalia Castano of New York City came to spend a week at the Hyatt Regency Aruba for Fernando's 30th birthday on the 6th of September. During their special birthday dinner, Fernando got down on one knee and asked Natalia to marry him, presenting



her with a beautiful engagement ring. Fernando and Natalia have been sweethearts since high school. With all the excitement and stomachs full of butterflies, they still were able to enjoy the delicious full course dinner at the Hyatt and still have room for birthday cake afterwards. □

Photos by Diane Keijzer.

Red Sail Sports Aruba for all sail cruises

Sail with Red Sail Sports Aruba Sunset along Aruba's scenic Coastline



PALM BEACH - Red Sail Sports' catamaran will take you on an unforgettable journey: the Mexican Dinner Sail. Your trip includes a Live Mariachi Band, Mexican Food and an open bar with Tequila, Coronitas and Margaritas. The Mexican Party Sails on Friday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Aruba's trade winds provide the ideal conditions for sailing aboard Red Sail Sports' top quality, luxurious catamarans.

Set sail and join Red Sail Sports Half Day Luncheon Snorkel Sail or the romantic Sunset Sail. Red Sail Sports also offers a Dinner Sail which combines a sail along Aruba's scenic coastline and a spectacular view of the sunset with a tantalizing buffet catered by award-winning chefs. If you want to discover Aruba's underwater world, be sure to get in touch with Red Sail Sports. Learn to dive in one



day with the Discover Scuba Dive Course, get PADI certified or join us on our daily one and two tank dives. Red Sail Sports is Aruba's lead-ing dive and watersports operator. Activity desks are located at the Hyatt Regency, Marriott Resorts and on Renaissance Island.

To make reservations call 586-1603 or go to www.redsail-aruba.com. Be sure to visit one of Red Sail Sports' stores for the latest in swimwear, beach essentials, T-shirts and souvenirs.

Sunset Grille, a prime Steakhouse offering Spa Cuisine



Palm Beach – The Sunset Grille at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa needs no introduction. The award winning American steakhouse with its chic, cosmopolitan atmosphere headlines Prime Beef, the highest grade U.S.D.A -- only 2% of all beef is graded prime, required to age a minimum of 4 weeks. While steaks and chops make up the heart of the menu, the resort's Restaurant Chef Maarten Smeets innovated

unparalleled appetizers and extraordinary desserts, which helped the Sunset Grille achieve the Triple AAA's elite four-diamond status – a rare feat for steakhouses. Sunset Grille well-known as the number one steakhouse in Aruba offers also spa cuisine, for the health conscious visitors, featuring appetizers, salads and a wide array of seafood selections. The spa cuisine dishes are balanced by enhancing

flavors with citrus, spice and herbs and taste is elevated by marinating, smoking and grilling, Smeets explains. "We now use many more herbs, vegetables, grains and fibers," he adds, "all designed to sustain a healthier life style; and we stay away from saturated fats and refined sugars, as well as use salt sparingly," he informs. "The Sunset Grille kitchen," Smeets reveals, "uses no trans fats, and our guests," he banter, "stay healthy, wealthy and wise with our new and exciting spa cuisine." Among the patrons favorite dishes are, the Sunset Grille's famous Chop House Martini Salad, "Shaken not Stirred;" the lobster bisque with a pastry crust, the various cuts of prime beef, the popular Rack of Lamb, Stuffed Quail and the delicious Veal Oscar. The spa cuisine features items such as Tuna Tataki, the Spinach Salad, Chilean Seabass, grilled Swordfish and the Asian style Salmon



and Scallops served with the popular Soba Noodles. The Sunset Grille always endeavors to exceed guests' expectations by purchasing the very best products available and preparing them in accordance with a combination of "tried and true" as well as cutting edge contemporary methods, Smeets explains. Simply put, the Sunset Grille culinary team buys the best products, and cooks them the best way they know, refusing



to cut corners, especially when it comes to buying, aging and cutting meat. No wonder the readers of Caribbean Travel & Life named it the top restaurant in the Caribbean. □



Palm beach – The Lazy Lizard in a one stop shop before you hit the waves. Designed to stimulate your shopping instincts, the beautiful store is hard to resist. What you'll

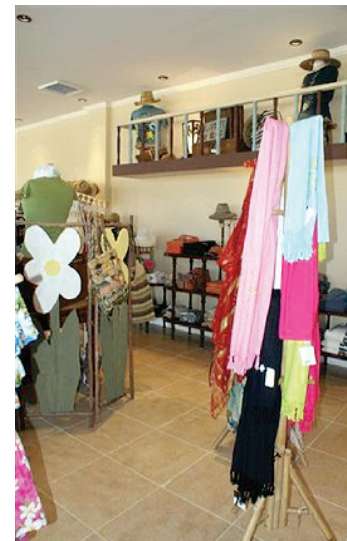
Life's a beach at the Lazy Lizard



find at the new South Beach Centre on Palm Beach, just a few steps away from the Hard Rock Café, is absolutely gorgeous: hand picked gifts,

souvenirs, beach and resort wear, for women, men and kids. It's all on display from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day. The tastefully arranged store is

signature Jodi Tobman-Hagedoorn, the Boston-born retailer at the helm of Salamander Holdings family of fun stores, The Juggling Fish, The Coconut Trading Co., T.H. Palm & Company & The Lazy Lizard. You will find a great selection of children's gifts here. In fact an entire store section is dedicated to gifts with a tropical appeal for babies and toddlers, among them whimsical plush stuffed iguanas, parrots and seahorses. Moreover, a bonanza of fridge magnets, hand-made silver jewelry, batik beach



wraps, throws, bags and hats awaits you. Tel.: 586 6206. For more information you may write to: orders@salamanderholdings.com □





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July 16th	Seaport	AWG 7500
July 23th	Crystal	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
July 30th	Seaport	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
August 6th	Crystal	AWG 7500
August 13th	Seaport	AWG 7500
August 20th	Crystal	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
August 27th	Seaport	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
September 3rd	Crystal	AWG 7500
September 10th	Seaport	AWG 7500
September 17th	Crystal	AWG 7500 + weekend stay
September 24th	Seaport	AWG 7500 + weekend stay

For more information please call: 523-6318 of 523-6437
Winner must be present at the drawing with valid ID to claim their prize.



Renaissance Curaçao Resort & Casino

St. Kitts and Nevis signs TIEA's with four countries



BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, SEPTEMBER 14TH 2009 (CUOPM) - Two weeks after Prime Minister Hon Dr. Denzil L. Douglas announced that his Labour Party Administration had taken measures to improve the Federation's standing with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), tax information exchange agreements have been signed with four countries. St. Kitts and Nevis last Friday, 11th September, 2009, signed tax information exchange agreements (TIEAs) with the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. The signing ceremony took place in The Hague, the Dutch capital, where St. Kitts and Nevis High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, His Excellency Dr. James Williams, signed the treaties on behalf of the Federation with representatives from the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. "This brings to four the

number of TIEAs that have been signed by the Federation," said Chief Executive Officer of the St. Kitts Investment Promotion Agency (SKIPA), Ms. Shawna Lake. She disclosed that two Tax Information Exchange Agreements with the Kingdom of Denmark and the Kingdom of the Netherlands were signed during the margins of the OECD Global Forum on Taxation held in Mexico City earlier this month. Ms. Lake said St. Kitts and Nevis has already negotiated the text for additional TIEAs, but is awaiting indication from the relevant countries about the dates for the actual signing of these agreements. During his recent press conference, Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas told reporters his government would soon sign TIEAs with several countries including Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Additional agreements are also being sought with New Zealand, Australia, and Canada as the government seeks to move from the OECD's 'grey list' to the 'white list.' In April, the Paris-based OECD placed St. Kitts and Nevis and several other Caribbean countries on its 'grey list' of jurisdictions that "have committed to the internationally agreed tax

standard, but have not yet substantially implemented." To move up to the 'white list' of jurisdictions that "have substantially implemented the international tax standard," countries are required to sign TIEAs with at least 12 OECD member countries. □

Another black eye

The local Bar Association's concerns about the state of the police cells here in St. Maarten are well founded, given the repeated reliable complaints reaching this newspaper and the documented evidence contained in official reports submitted to the Dutch Government.

"The general view is that the situation hasn't changed since the last visit (in September 2008). In certain areas things even got worse. Insufficient access to medical care, the very limited opportunity to air the detainees and the absence of enough mattresses are very negative developments," Dutch experts Juan de Lange and Professor Paul Vegter wrote scathingly in their May 20, 2009, report submitted to Dutch State Secretary for Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten and forwarded to the Dutch Second Chamber.

"Detention circumstances are way below level and are in violation of international norms," they also reported. That is another "black eye" for the Central Government, underscoring the dire urgency of the early demise of the failed constitutional entity known as the Netherlands Antilles.

And while it is a fact that attempts are being made to effect improvements at the police cells, as was pointed out by new Justice Minister Magali Jacoba and as is evident from the recent resumption of work for the building of new cells, the Bar Association is quite correct in arguing that building new cells to relieve overcrowding in the police detention cells is only part of the solution.

We support the association fully in its contention that "even simple measures like the purchase of mattresses, hiring some temporary security staff for airing the detainees, filtering the tap water and natural lighting via pipes as well as proper cleaning could have easily been organised and funded."

While some may justifiably argue that the Dutch penal system tends to be too liberal – meaning too soft – no one is advocating that persons being detained in the police cells be accorded the sort of treatment one expects at a five-star hotel.

The people of St. Maarten are not ready to accept that, but clearly in a situation where the well-known bail system common under legal systems based on British jurisprudence does not exist here, the state has a duty to treat its detained guests, some of whom will be found innocent of any wrongdoing, with greater respect.

It is unacceptable that because of the horrible conditions under which persons are detained, the courts are forced to serve up markedly reduced sentences as a form of compensation for the poor treatment meted out to them by the state. After all, it is also unbelievable that in this part of the Dutch realm, persons are being detained for as long as seven months under such atrocious conditions.

Where is the humanity? Where is the outrage?

And while we welcome the Bar Association's open condemnation of the existing situation, we wish to challenge these legal luminaries to move beyond condemnation.

To the members of the Bar Association we say: Being as smart as you are, you must be able to find a way(s) under the law to force the state to honour its obligations to those of its citizens and guests whom it determines it shall hold in detention for whatever cause, for whatever reason, for however long. □



Netherlands Antilles State Secretary of Finance, Alex Rosaria

Netherlands Antilles white-listed by OECD

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao - The status of the Netherlands Antilles as a co-operative, transparent and internationally responsible jurisdiction has been recognized by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on September 11 2009. According to a press release on Saturday, the Netherlands Antilles has worked hard to ensure that it is not regarded as a tax haven with harmful tax practices and its inclusion on the most recent OECD white list is recognition of its efforts. "It also demonstrates that we are a co-operative and transparent international financial services centre which takes its international responsibilities very seriously," the release said. The State Secretary of Finance of the Netherlands Antilles, Alex Rosaria warned however to not be complacent about the future. "In view of the current economic climate, international financial services centers will remain in the spotlight and will continue to have their financial services regulation, anti-money laundering legislation and financial stability assessed by international organizations against internationally accepted benchmarks," Rosaria said. According to Rosaria, the Netherlands Antilles must also continue with its efforts to ensure a solid supervision, a competitive tax environment, adequate marketing, more tax treaties and a globally competitive workforce. "If we do these things, we can realize our true potential and become a top-10 international financial center," he said. □

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BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Utilities help pull stocks higher after early fall

By TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writer

NEWYORK—Stocks bounced back from early losses to post moderate gains as traders funneled money into utility and financial companies.

Major market indexes ended at their highest levels in nearly a year.

Stocks slid at the open following a drop in overseas markets on worries that a trade war would erupt between the U.S. and China. But the market recovered from the early dip that sent the Dow Jones industrial average down 69 points as investors seized on the opportunity to inject new money into shares. The Dow ended with a gain of 21 points.

Utility AES Corp. helped pull the market higher after The Wall Street Journal reported that China's investment arm is interested in buying a stake in the company.

Analysts said the market's gains are impressive because the Standard & Poor's 500 index has already jumped 55.1 percent in six months.

"We open lower and buyers seem to chip away, and we climb higher," said Adam Gould, senior portfolio manager at Direxion Funds in New York.

"It's somewhat healthy that we're rallying this way — slowly."

The Dow rose 21.39, or 0.2 percent, to 9,626.80. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 6.61, or 0.6 percent, to 1,049.34, an 11-month high. The Nasdaq composite index rose 10.88, or 0.5 percent, to 2,091.78.

The early losses came after the U.S. government late Friday imposed trade penalties on tires coming from China. The Chinese government filed a complaint with the World Trade Organization. Investors worried that a tariff dispute would damage an economic

recovery.

Monday's zigzags came in sharp contrast to the tumult of a year ago, when the collapse of Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. sent the Dow down 500 points in one day and jammed the credit markets that power the world's economies. The S&P 500 index is still down 16.2 percent from that time and 33 percent from its peak in October 2007.

Traders reacted coolly to a speech from President Barack Obama, who warned the financial industry against repeating the recklessness that led to collapse of Lehman Brothers. He spoke across the street from the New York Stock Exchange.

Richard Ross, global technical strategist at Auerbach Grayson in New York, said the economy still faces obstacles but that the market could extend its recovery because investors are more optimistic than when major stock indicators plunged to 12-year lows in early March.

"Questions remain but a lot of the uncertainty has largely been removed. That sort of doomsday scenario has been taken off the table," he said. "We're striking a much healthier balance between greed and fear."

Investors had little news to provide insight into the economy. Reports on retail sales, inflation, industrial production and housing are due this week. Improvements in consumer spending and the housing market are considered crucial to allowing the economy to mount a strong rebound.

Randy Cass, founder of financial services research group First Coverage in Boston, said stocks could push higher as year-end approaches because many investors are looking past weak economic numbers toward an eventual recovery.

"They have made their bets and the chips have been on the table since the first part of March," he said, referring to the start of the rally.

In downturns in the past 60 years, the S&P 500 index has hit bottom an average of four months before a recession ended and about nine months before unemployment reached its peak.

Among stocks driving trading, AES rose 64 cents, or 4.5 percent, to \$14.79 following the report of interest from China. General Electric Co. gained 68 cents, or 4.6 percent, to \$15.35 — its first close above \$15 since January. Goldman Sachs reiterated its "buy" rating on the stock, which often trades alongside banks because the conglomerate has a large financial arm.

Crude oil fell 43 cents to settle at \$68.86 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Bond prices fell, pushing yields higher. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury



Trader Gerard Farco stops to check prices at a post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Monday, Sept. 14, 2009.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

note rose to 3.43 percent from 3.35 percent late Friday.

The recovery in the credit market in the past year has been pronounced. When Lehman collapsed, investors began rushing to the safety of government debt. Borrowing costs have fallen as governments have injected cash into financial markets. The dollar traded mixed against other major currencies, while gold prices fell.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 6.44, or 1.1 percent, to 600.03.

Two stocks rose for every one that fell on the NYSE, where consolidated volume came to 4.9 billion shares compared with 5 billion Friday.

Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.2 percent, while Germany's DAX index and France's CAC-40 slipped 0.1 percent. Japan's Nikkei stock average fell 2.3 percent. □

Survey: Food banks under more stress

By HENRY C. JACKSON,
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Food banks across the country are being stretched by a recession-fueled surge in first time users, according to a survey released on Monday.

Feeding America, a nonprofit organization aimed at fighting hunger, surveyed 176 food banks across the country. Of those, 99 percent reported a significant uptick in requests for food, and 98 percent pinned the increase on new visitors to food banks.

The survey dovetails with data from the Agriculture Department, which reported earlier this month that requests for food stamps had increased for the eighth month in a row in June and that a record number of people — more than 35 million — received aid. Food bank administrators said they fear the increase will mean they won't be able to provide as much aid as they have in the past. "It's a real worry," said Kitty Schaller, the executive director of MANNA FoodBank in Asheville, N.C. Schaller said high

unemployment has fueled unprecedented demand for assistance at her food bank, which serves 16 mostly rural counties in western North Carolina.

"We have had good help, including from the federal government, but in some cases we are worried we can't do as much," Schaller said. Joan Wadkins, a spokeswoman for Second Harvest Heartland, a food bank network based in Minneapolis, said her organization expanded its storage capacity over the summer and demand continues to increase.

"We are fortunate because donations have continued to be generous," Wadkins said. "But we have a lot of people who need help." According to the survey, 92 percent of the food banks reported people seeking help had recently lost their jobs.

"What we're seeing is a significant increase in the need for donations, because these organizations are under stress," said Maura Daly, a spokeswoman for Feeding America. "And that, primarily, is being driven by first-time users." □



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Obama points a finger at Wall Street – and everyone

By the Monitor's Editorial Board

On the first anniversary of the day that began the great recession, President Obama took his bully pulpit to Wall Street and made a special plea on behalf of Main Street.

The threat of a meltdown is long over and the markets are rebounding, but Mr. Obama needed to ask the industry to support his proposals for regulatory reforms. Those proposals remain stuck in Congress because many powerful members take campaign donations from financiers.

Despite the crisis, Wall Street is still thinking short-term – as usual, only to the next quarterly report. And from its perspective, the industry has reined in many excesses of past risk-taking.

Banks now hold more money in reserve. Borrowers seeking loans are under closer scrutiny. More bonuses are tied to actual results. Complex financial instruments are more transparent.

Yet the task of preventing another financial meltdown remains with government, which has a longer-term memory. Many of Obama's proposals would hold Wall Street more accountable for taking on too much risk and putting the financial system in jeopardy.

Mortgages would be easier to read, for instance, and regulators could act more quickly to keep big institutions from failing.

"Restoring a willingness to take responsibility – even when it is hard to do – is at the heart of what we must do," Obama said.

But even he acknowledges that the origins – or blame – for this crisis are so widespread that better regulation will only go so far. "It was a collective failure of responsibility in Washington, on Wall Street, and across America that led to the near collapse of our financial system," he said.

At many levels of society, a reckless risk-taking in borrowing and speculating had risen sharply, caused by a common complacency. Too many people thought markets, especially in housing, would always rise and that greater transparency in the level of risks wasn't really needed. A belief had settled in that government knew how to smooth out the business cycles and how to keep recessions short and shallow.

As a result, the president now says that what's needed "goes beyond just the reforms."

The crisis was fundamentally a breach of trust at many levels of business and by government.

And now government can only do so much to restore it.

"One of the most important ways to rebuild the system stronger than before is to rebuild trust stronger than before – and you don't have to wait for a new law to do that," Obama said. Corporate boards can ask shareholders to vote on compensation for executives, for example, and bonuses can be tied to long-term results.

But even deeper than restoring trust is a need for a new kind of self-control by members of the financial community.

They must regain a respect for the possibility of failure in investments and in the general economy. Long periods of prosperity should not be allowed to create a false impression of stability that then drives up risk to delusional heights. And fancy computer models that claim to spread risk widely should not be relied on as the final wisdom on the behavior of markets – and end up creating the very risks they were designed to avoid.

Fortunately, a movement has started at America's business schools to better learn the kind of integrity that might avoid the use of excess debt and dangerous leveraging in financial instruments.

Last spring, a group of Harvard Business School students wrote an oath for MBA students to sign online (mbaoath.org). The oath aims to guide future business leaders to prevent the kind of crisis that befell the global markets in 2008.

As a sort of Hippocratic Oath to do no harm for society's larger interest in capitalism, the pledge has been signed by hundreds so far. It builds on ethics courses taught at business schools – many of them still voluntary, not mandatory – that were introduced after the Enron scandal. But also, there seems to be more social consciousness among today's graduates.

A mix of better government regulations, self-reform by the industry, and an individual commitment to seek profits within society's larger interests are all needed.

Before memories fade about the crisis triggered by the Lehman Brothers collapse on Sept. 15 last year, more is needed of all three reforms. □

*** Human Hints Daily ***

Ancient Indian Text Decoded - Part 2

Yesterday, we began the story of the Bhagavad Gita. When we left off, the great General Arjuna lost his nerve in front of both armies, and refused to sound the battle cry...

Arjuna is prostrate before Krishna, unarmed, pleading for guidance, while the vast armies face each other, awaiting the signal to unleash unknown destruction.

Krishna, the human incarnation of the god Vishnu, looks down upon the prostrate General Arjuna and says, "What is this mad and shameful weakness?"

Stand up and fight!"

Arjuna replies, "I cannot. I look around and see my friends and family in both armies. If I signal for this war to begin, I will be forcing everyone I have loved to destroy each other. I will be forcing myself to fight to the death against those I have loved deeply since childhood.

"I see Drona, who took me and my brothers under his tutelage. We were born of Gods, and Drona became our Earthly father. He loved us like his own children. He taught us the mystical ways of peace and war. He disciplined us and gave us the direction we needed, to become the cohesive Unit that faces him in battle today.

"I see Ancient Bhima, who's resolute Will is unequalled on Earth. I love him like an Uncle. He has been there for me and my brothers our entire lives. He cradled us in his arms, he loved us and supported us every day of our lives, and now we must destroy him?"

"How can I complete my duty, and unleash the wrath of my friends and family upon each other? I will not. I will sit in this spot until death takes me. While I am alive, I will never allow these armies to fight."

With that, Krishna revealed a knowing smile. He gracefully dismounted the chariot and knelt by Arjuna. He revealed the answers very quietly to Arjuna.

"You must fight with all your will, using every force and tactic at your disposal. You must fight to win. Then, when your efforts reach a conclusion, you must completely and unequivocally detach your emotions from the outcome of your actions. The outcome of any effort does not matter. Only the effort matters." In modern terms, it's not if you win or lose, it's how you play the game.

Arjuna continues to question, "But how do we stop caring about the end result? An outcome is the very reason that we act. Now you say that only the action matters?"

Krishna answers, "You must learn to see with the same

eye, the beggar and the King, success and failure, love and hate, good and evil, light and dark. You must free yourself from these illusions, while immersed within them."

Arjuna remained confused.

"How do we escape illusion, if we are born in illusion? It is all we know. We are completely unaware of anything except this illusion. How do we escape from the only reality we know? Where do we find the will to free ourselves from bindings that we cannot see?" That, Dear Readers, is the question we are all asking ourselves at this pivotal moment on three dimensional Earth, whether we know it or not.

Tomorrow, we'll review these concepts in our own words, and decipher what it means to us as Humans on Earth during a Universal Energetic Transformation, living daily lives, striving to pay the bills, sitting in traffic, grateful for a moment's rest and a chuckle now and then.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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Bea Arthur remembered with love and laughter

By MICHAEL KUCHWARA,
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK — They remembered with love — and a lot of laughter — the star of television's "Maude" and "The Golden Girls," a woman who also appeared in such hit musicals as "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Mame."

Memories of Bea Arthur filled Broadway's Majestic Theatre Monday as friends, family and co-stars recalled the tall, baritone-voiced and supremely funny actress who died last April of cancer at the age of 86.

A large photo of Arthur, dressed in a stylish black

suit stared down during the lengthy celebration, which was hosted by Angela Lansbury. The actress first worked with Arthur in 1966 in "Mame," playing Mame Dennis opposite Arthur's tart-tongued Vera Charles.

"On stage, yes, we were bosom buddies (the title of their famous 'Mame' duet) but it wasn't until years later after we both had successful TV series under our belts that we really got together," Lansbury recalled. "That's when we became ... bosom friends."

Among the other participants were "Maude" producer Norman Lear, Rosie

O'Donnell, "Fiddler" lyricist Sheldon Harnick, Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara, and several of Arthur's television co-stars including Rue McClanahan and Adrienne Barbeau.

"No one seems less gone to me or more alive to me than Bea," said Lear, who also created the television classic, "All in the Family," which is where Arthur's character of the feminist, liberal Maude Findlay first appeared.

"I am sure that's because laughter lingers and no one made me laugh like Bea Arthur," the producer explained.

"I have spent most of my life in the company of extraordinary laugh-makers, performers and writers, killers of the art, but Bea Arthur had me laughing in nooks and crannies of my body, places I didn't even know existed."

A parade of photographs and film clips were interspersed throughout the program, including Arthur's rendition (as Maude) of that Frank Sinatra classic "My Way," that brought down the house.

Harnick recalled Arthur's rendition of a torch-song spoof he wrote called "Garbage," and which she sang off-Broadway in "The Shoestring Revue" in 1955. He said Arthur brought something to the song that cannot be taught or directed: "an unerring sense of comedy."

"When she wanted to be funny, she was funny," Harnick explained. "The combination of intelligence, talent, timing, gestures, facial expressions, attitude and voice quality — that smoky baritone once heard never forgotten — that combination was unique and inimitable."

And it wasn't just her voice. Said Chita Rivera, who appeared with Arthur in "The Shoestring Revue": "Her silences often said so much more than someone with a huge monologue. She would allow you to imagine what she was thinking — (now) that was really funny."

O'Donnell recalled the first time she met Arthur, going up to the actress at a West Side night spot and drunkenly



FILE - This Dec. 9, 2008 file photo shows actress Bea Arthur arriving at the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences 2008 Hall of Fame Ceremony in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles, File)

singing the theme song from "Maude" to her (which O'Donnell also sang Monday). It was a bonding moment, according to the comedian.

"She really taught me and every other woman my age how to be a feminist at a time when that was a dirty word," O'Donnell said. "And without her, I think, there would not be as many funny women on television today." □



FILE - this Aug. 31, 2009 photo provided Monday, Sept. 7, 2009 by Harpo Productions shows television talk-show host Oprah Winfrey, right, and Whitney Houston during an interview at the Town Hall in New York.

(AP Photo/Harpo Productions, George Burns)

Houston to Winfrey: Brown was emotionally abusive

By CARYN ROUSSEAU,
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — Whitney Houston took drugs, including cocaine and marijuana, with ex-husband Bobby Brown, who was emotionally abusive during their marriage and at one point spit on her, the singer said during an interview that aired Monday on "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

"I had so much money and so much access to what I wanted," Houston told Winfrey. "I didn't think about the singing part anymore. I was looking for my young womanhood."

After a long absence from music, Houston is staging a career comeback with a new album "I Look to You" released last month and a two-part appearance on "The Oprah Winfrey Show." Houston is one of the best-selling artists of all time, but her career stalled as she grappled with drug problems and a troubled marriage to Brown.

The couple married in 1992 and were divorced in 2007. During their marriage, Brown was arrested on drug and alcohol charges, and Houston twice entered drug rehabilitation programs. She has custody of their teenage daughter.

Houston told Winfrey that Brown wasn't physically abusive but "he slapped me once but he got hit on the head three times by me."

A phone message left Monday with Brown's attorney in Atlanta seeking comment was not immediately returned. □

Emmy Countdown:

The greenroom and its inhabitants

By DERRIK J. LANG,
AP Entertainment Writer
LOS ANGELES — The 61st Primetime Emmy Awards are days away, but Hollywood is already gearing up for Sunday's awards.

Martyn Lawrence-Bullard has pitched a tent backstage at the Nokia Theatre.

The interior designer created a Moorish 18-foot-high tented enclave for the lavish backstage space where celebrities can luxuriate during next Sunday's 61st annual Primetime Emmy Awards.

Lawrence-Bullard filled the 625-foot built-from-scratch greenroom with Syrian, Turkish and Moroccan antiques, flooring made of leather tiles and various types of seating.

"I asked my friend Minnie Driver, who had been nominated before, what she thought of the



Interior designer Martyn Lawrence-Bullard poses for a portrait inside the Architectural Digest Green Room that he designed for the 61st Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles on Friday, Sept. 11, 2009.

(AP Photo/Matt Sayles)

greenroom," said the first-time Architectural Digest greenroom designer. "She said it was great but was in a long gown and couldn't sit down anywhere because it would crease. I thought, 'OK. I'll do bar stools for those dramatic gowns, so they can perch on the edge.'"

For presenters and winners who aren't worried about

wrinkles, Lawrence-Bullard flanked the room with two huge sofas, the same kind he said he used when decorating Cher's Malibu house. He also custom-designed the greenroom's fabric wall coverings, wooden mirrored panels and the hand-knotted rug featuring a burnt red tracery relief made of silk thread. □

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The garden will feel like an oasis true to the projects name. There will also be a recreation room and sofas throughout the common area to lounge and relax. Further amenities include a 24/7 security, a full concierge and a rental program for the owners who want to earn a return on their investment. The concierge service will be helpful to assist the owners in making their 'homecoming' a very pleasant return. Each condo will have one designated parking space exclusive to the owners. Construction on Oasis at Eagle

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On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Tuesday, September 15, 2009



Protesters chant during a rally by several hundred caregivers for seniors and people with disabilities where they called for inclusion of a public option in health care, Monday, Sept. 14, 2009, in Seattle. The caregivers, members of SEIU Healthcare 775NW, staged the rally to coincide with the release of a video organizers say that contrasts the lifestyles of executives of insurance company CIGNA with denial of care to its policyholders. Protesters called for an end to CIGNA's opposition to a public option in health care reform.

Associated Press
Read more on Page B4

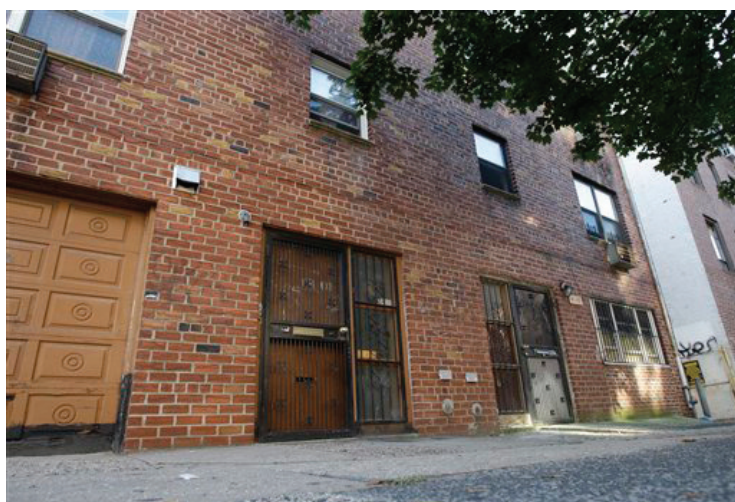
3 New York residences raided in terrorism probe

DEVLIN BARRETT
TOM HAYS

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — FBI agents and police raided three apartments in New York City before dawn Monday during an investigation of a man suspected of being an al-Qaida associate. The searches came after the man, who was under surveillance for possible links to the terror network, visited New York City over the weekend and left the area, Rep. Peter King of New York said after receiving a briefing on the operation from federal law enforcement officials.

Sen. Charles Schumer of New York, who also was briefed Monday, said a terrorist attack was not believed to be imminent. He added that the law enforcement action was unrelated to President Barack Obama's visit to the city Monday. New York Police Department spokesman Paul Browne confirmed that searches were conducted in the borough of Queens by



The apartment building, which was raided by agents of a joint terrorism task force, is shown in the Queens borough of New York, Monday, Sept. 14, 2009. The apartment, located on the third floor, center entrance, was searched by law enforcement agents as part of a terrorism investigation.

Associated Press

agents of a joint terrorism task force. Residents on Monday described officers armed with search warrants swarming their immigrant neighborhood at about 2:30 a.m. Afghanistan native Akbari Amanullah said when he arrived home from work afterward, he was told that one of his roommates had been hauled away.

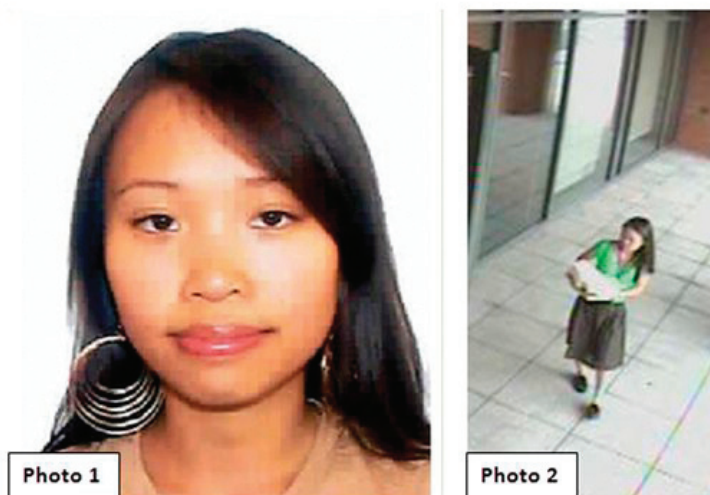
No arrests were announced.

Neither the FBI nor the NYPD would discuss the whereabouts of the al-Qaida suspect or whether anyone was being held for questioning in New York.

A White House spokesman said Obama, who spoke on Wall Street on Monday, had been briefed on the investigation.

Continued on Page B3

Clues point to inside job in Yale killing



This composite photo released by New Haven Police Dept., shows Yale graduate student Annie Le in a video image entering 10 Amistad the morning of her disappearance on the campus at Yale University in new haven, Conn. Sept. 8, 2009. At left is an undated of Le. Police on Sunday said they found what they believe is the body of the graduate student and bride-to-be hidden inside the wall of 10 Amistad, a university building where she was last seen.

Associated Press

PAT EATON-ROBB

Associated Press Writer

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — Clues increasingly pointed to an inside job Monday in the slaying of a Yale graduate student whose body was found stuffed inside a wall five days after she vanished from a heavily secured lab building accessible only to university employees.

Continued on Page B5



International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed El-Baradei, background right, delivers a speech at the beginning of a general conference of the IAEA, at Vienna's International Center, in Vienna, Austria, Monday, Sept. 14, 2009. El-Baradei called Monday for talks between Iran and the U.S. and cautioning against the use of force to resolve international disagreements.

Associated Press

Iran to meet world powers, first talks in a year

Read Page B6

Publicist: Patrick Swayze dies at 57



By CHRISTY LEMIRE,
AP Entertainment Writer
LOS ANGELES — Patrick Swayze, the hunky actor who danced his way into viewers' hearts with "Dirty Dancing" and then broke them with "Ghost," died Monday after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 57.

"Patrick Swayze passed away peacefully today with family at his side after facing the challenges of his illness for the last 20 months," said a statement released Monday evening by his publicist, Annett Wolf. No other details were given.

Fans of the actor were saddened to learn in March 2008 that Swayze was suffering from a particularly deadly form of cancer.

He had kept working despite the diagnosis, putting together a memoir with his wife and shooting "The Beast," an A&E drama series for which he had already made the pilot. It drew a respectable 1.3 million viewers when the 13 episodes ran in 2009, but A&E said it had reluctantly decided not to renew it for a second season.

Swayze said he opted not to use painkilling drugs while making "The Beast" because they would have taken the edge off his performance. He acknowledged that time might

be running out given the grim nature of the disease.

When he first went public with the illness, some reports gave him only weeks to live, but his doctor said his situation was "considerably more optimistic" than that.

"I'd say five years is pretty wishful thinking," Swayze told ABC's Barbara Walters in early 2009. "Two years seems likely if you're going to believe statistics. I want to last until they find a cure, which means I'd better get a fire under it."

A three-time Golden Globe nominee, Swayze became a star with his performance as the misunderstood bad-boy Johnny Castle in "Dirty Dancing." As the son of a choreographer who began his career in musical theater, he seemed a natural to play the role.

A coming-of-age romance starring Jennifer Grey as an idealistic young woman on vacation with her family and Swayze as the Catskills resort's sexy (and much older) dance instructor, the film made great use of both his grace on his feet and his muscular physique.

It became an international phenomenon in the summer of 1987, spawning albums, an Oscar-winning hit song in "(I've Had) the Time of My Life," stage productions and a sequel, 2004's "Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights," in which he made a cameo.

Swayze performed and co-wrote a song on the soundtrack, the ballad "She's Like the Wind," inspired by his wife, Lisa Niemi. The film also gave him the chance to utter the now-classic line, "Nobody puts Baby in a corner."

And it allowed him to poke fun at himself on a "Saturday Night Live" episode, in which he played a wannabe Chippendales

dancer alongside the corpulent — and frighteningly shirtless — Chris Farley.

A major crowdpleaser, the film drew only mixed reviews from critics, though Vincent Canby wrote in The New York Times, "Given the limitations of his role, that of a poor but handsome sex-object abused by the rich women at Kellerman's Mountain House, Mr. Swayze is also good. ... He's at his best — as is the movie — when he's dancing."

Swayze followed that up with the 1989 action flick "Road House," in which he played a bouncer at a rowdy bar. But it was his performance in 1990's "Ghost" that showed his vulnerable, sensitive side. He starred as a murdered man trying to communicate with his fiancée (Demi Moore) — with great frustration and longing — through a psychic played by Whoopi Goldberg.

Swayze said at the time that he fought for the role of Sam Wheat (director Jerry Zucker wanted Kevin Kline) but once he went in for an audition and read six scenes, he got it.

Why did he want the part so badly? "It made me cry four or five times," he said of Bruce Joel Rubin's Oscar-winning script in an AP interview.

"Ghost" provided yet another indelible musical moment: Swayze and Moore sensually molding pottery together to the strains of the Righteous Brothers' "Unchained Melody." It also earned a best-picture nomination and a supporting-actress Oscar for Goldberg, who said she wouldn't have won if it weren't for Swayze.

"When I won my Academy Award, the only person I really thanked was Patrick," Goldberg said in March 2008 on the ABC daytime talk show "The View." Swayze himself earned three Golden Globe nominations, for "Dirty Dancing," "Ghost" and 1995's "To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar," which further allowed him to toy with his masculine image. The role called for him to play a drag queen on a cross-country road trip alongside Wesley Snipes and John Leguizamo. His heartthrob status almost kept him from being considered for the role of Vida Boheme.

"I couldn't get seen on it because everyone viewed me

as terminally heterosexually masculine-macho," he told the AP then. But he transformed himself so completely that when his screen test was sent to Steven Spielberg, whose Amblin pictures produced "To Wong Foo," Spielberg didn't recognize him.

Among his earlier films, Swayze was part of the star-studded lineup of up-and-comers in Francis Ford Coppola's 1983 adaptation of S.E. Hinton's novel "The Outsiders," alongside Rob Lowe, Tom Cruise, Matt Dillon, Ralph Macchio, Emilio Estevez and Diane Lane. Swayze played Darrel "Dary" Curtis, the oldest of three wayward brothers — and essentially the father figure — in a poor family in small-town Oklahoma.

Other '80s films included "Red Dawn," "Grandview U.S.A." (for which he also provided choreography) and "Youngblood," once more with Lowe, as Canadian hockey teammates.

In the '90s, he made such eclectic films as "Point Break" (1991), in which he played the leader of a band of bank-robbing surfers, and the family Western "Tall Tale" (1995), in which he starred as Pecos Bill. He appeared on the cover of People magazine as its "Sexiest Man Alive" in 1991, but his career tapered off toward the end of the 1990s, when he also had stay in rehab for alcohol abuse. In 2001, he appeared in the cult favorite "Donnie Darko," and in 2003 he returned to the New York stage with "Chicago"; 2006 found him in the musical "Guys and Dolls" in London.

Swayze was born in 1952 in Houston, the son of Jesse Swayze and choreographer Patsy Swayze, whose films include "Urban Cowboy."

He played football but also was



drawn to dance and theater, performing with the Feld, Joffrey and Harkness Ballets and appearing on Broadway as Danny Zuko in "Grease." But he turned to acting in 1978 after a series of injuries.

Within a couple years of moving to Los Angeles, he made his debut in the roller-disco movie "Skatetown, U.S.A." The eclectic cast included Scott Baio, Flip Wilson, Maureen McCormack and Billy Barty. Swayze had a couple of movies in the works when his diagnosis was announced, including the drama "Powder Blue," starring Jessica Biel, Forest Whitaker and his younger brother, Don, which was scheduled for release this year.

Off-screen, he was an avid conservationist who was moved by his time in Africa to shine a light on "man's greed and absolute unwillingness to operate according to Mother Nature's laws," he told the AP in 2004.

Swayze was married since 1975 to Niemi, a fellow dancer who took lessons with his mother; they met when he was 19 and she was 15. A licensed pilot, Niemi would fly her husband from Los Angeles to Northern California for treatment at Stanford University Medical Center, People magazine reported in a cover story. □





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Former Carter press secretary Jody Powell dies

H. JOSEF HEBERT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jody Powell, who was White House press secretary and among the closest and most trusted advisers to President Jimmy Carter, died Monday of a heart attack. He was 65.

Powell, a member of the so-called Georgia Mafia that descended on Washington after Carter was elected president, was stricken at his home near Cambridge on Maryland's eastern shore, said Jack Nelson, a retired reporter and close friend of Powell.

Nelson said Powell had been working with firewood with a helper who briefly stepped away. Powell was discovered a short time later on the ground. Powell was said to have had a previous heart attack, but that it was some time ago in the early or mid-1990s.

Powell, who first worked with Carter during his campaign for governor in Georgia the 1960s, joined Carter's presidential campaign in 1976 and served as chief White House spokesman from 1977

to 1981.

Carter in a statement called Powell's death "a great personal loss" and said, "I will miss him dearly."

"Jody was beside me in every decision I made as a candidate, governor and president and I could always depend on his advice and counsel being candid and direct," Carter said. He added: "No one worked more closely with me than Jody."

After leaving the White House, Powell became one of the founders of the Powell Tate public relations firm in Washington. A Georgia native known for his deep Southern drawl, Powell — along with fellow Georgian Hamilton Jordan — was among Carter's closest advisers and confidants. A June 1977 issue of Time magazine had caricatures of both Powell and Jordan on its cover, declaring them "the president's boys." Jordan died last year after a lengthy battle with cancer.

At one point during his presidency, Carter said "Jody Powell knows me better than

anyone else except my wife."

"He was much more than a press secretary," said Stuart Eizenstat, Carter's domestic policy adviser. "There were no secrets between the president and those in the administration and Jody." He said Powell was intimately involved in the decision-making behind closed doors at the White House.

White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said Monday he was "deeply saddened" to hear of Powell's death.

"Jody served his country during a difficult time, and he always did the job with grace and good humor," Gibbs said. He added that he had sought out Powell's advice when he became press secretary and that Powell "was always generous with his time and wise in his counsel."

Born on a cotton and peanut farm, Powell grew up in Vienna, Georgia, and had aspirations to become an Air Force pilot. But he was expelled from the U.S. Air Force Academy during his senior year for cheating and went on to attend Georgia

State University and later Emory University where he received a masters degree in political science.

He joined Carter's gubernatorial campaign as a driver and all-around handyman and stayed with him through his presidency.

A man who at times could display his temper, Powell remained a staunch defender of the Carter presidency. When Republican Sen. John McCain frequently cited Carter in negative terms during last year's presidential campaign, Powell was quick to cite Carter's early warnings about the country's oil dependence and his early calls for clean energy development.

Powell and the other Georgians who came with Carter did not always follow tradition when they arrived in Washington in 1977. They were fond of country music concerts and frequently were seen wearing blue jeans and T-shirts as they made the social scene.

But after leaving the White House, Powell remained and prospered as part of the same

identify himself or comment further. Nearby resident Kabir Islam said he saw FBI agents and police officers surrounding the apartment when he arrived home after 3 a.m.



In this March 30, 1980, file photo, White House press secretary Jody Powell speaks at a news conference in Milwaukee. On Monday, Sept. 14, 2009, a close associate said Powell has died.

Associated Press

Washington establishment. He headed the Washington public relations firm of Ogilvy & Mather, building it from about a dozen people to nearly 100 before leaving to found Powell Tate with Sheila Tate, former press secretary to first lady Nancy Reagan.

Tate called Powell a great communicators and "one of the best human beings I have ever known." □



A new door, left, now adorns an apartment at 144-67 41 Ave. in the Queens borough of New York Monday, Sept. 14, 2009 after an earlier raid on the apartment. This apartment and other buildings nearby were entered by the Joint Terrorism Task Force after the FBI executed search warrants in connection with an ongoing investigation. According to neighbors, the door had been replaced sometime today after the raid.

Associated Press

TERROR PROBE

Continued from Page B1

Two U.S. intelligence officials, who requested anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case publicly, said the target

of any purported attack — or who would carry it out — remained unclear.

Authorities have not found any weapons ready for use that would indicate an attack was imminent, they said.

Nevertheless, one of the officials called the threat very real and emphasized the urgency of it.

Another person briefed on the matter, who was not authorized to discuss the case and requested anonymity, said the raids were the result of previous law enforcement surveillance of people.

The investigation was continuing. Schumer said he couldn't discuss much of the case because many of the details were still classified.

"There was nothing imminent, and they are very good now at tracking potentially dangerous actions, and this was preventive," he said.

One man at a three-story brick apartment building in a predominantly Asian neighborhood of Queens confirmed Monday that authorities had been at his apartment, but he wouldn't

Amanullah, a taxi driver, said about a dozen FBI agents went to his nearby fifth-floor apartment, which he shares with four other Afghan natives, at about 2:30 a.m. □

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Near deadline, health care negotiators 'close'



Bingaman



Baucus



Conrad



Enzi



Snowe



Grassley

- These various 2009 file photos shows members of the Senate Finance Committee dealing with health care. Top row, from left are, Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M.; Committee Chairman Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont.; and Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D. Bottom row, from left are, Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo.; Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine; and the committee's ranking Republican Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa.

RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Senate health care negotiators said Monday they've narrowed their differences on a host of difficult issues with just a day or so left to seal an elusive bipartisan deal that could change the course of the contentious debate over President Barack Obama's ambitious plans to overhaul health care.

After months of closed-door negotiations, Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus said, "We're getting very close." But it remained unclear if the Democrat

Associated Press could strike a bargain that would mark a turning point for Obama's top domestic priority.

The negotiators pared the cost of their 10-year coverage plan to under \$880 billion, and also reported progress on several issues, including health insurance for the poor, restrictions on federal funding for abortions, a verification system to prevent illegal immigrants from getting benefits, and ways to encourage alternatives to malpractice lawsuits. Unlike other developed countries, the United States does not have universal health care.

With or without Republican

support, Baucus said he'll have a formal proposal on Wednesday to meet a deadline for moving ahead.

At the same time, he said the bipartisan talks could continue even as his Finance panel begins its formal bill-drafting session next week. The negotiators will meet again Tuesday.

"It's not just tomorrow or the next day," said Baucus. "We're going to keep working."

His small group of three Democrats and three Republicans has been doggedly laboring in hopes of finding a bipartisan path toward guaranteeing coverage for all and trying to control the rise in health care spending.

The three Republicans — Mike Enzi, Chuck Grassley and Olympia Snowe — are under intense pressure from leaders of their own party, some of whom have publicly dismissed Baucus' framework as a Democrat's plan. Baucus may not be able to get any of them to agree. But all three have invested much time and energy in the talks, and Baucus seems to have a chance of persuading at least Snowe.

Democratic Sen. Kent Conrad said the negotiators are close on a verification system to prevent illegal immigrants from getting government subsidies to buy health coverage — a big issue for Republicans.

"We're very close to conclusion on how to prevent people who are here illegally from benefiting," Conrad said.

Negotiators also said they've found ways to reduce the cost of a planned expansion of Medicaid to cover more people near the federal poverty line. The issue is critical to winning support from governors, since the states share in the cost of the program. A conference call with governors is expected Tuesday.

On medical malpractice, Conrad said the negotiators agreed that the federal government should provide funding for states to experiment with a range of alternatives to lawsuits.

On abortion, the negotiators are trying to come up with language that would extend current restrictions that prohibit federal funding for the procedure, except in cases of rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother.

Baucus' plan would require all Americans to get health insurance, either through an employer, a government program, or on their own. New consumer protections would prohibit onerous insurance companies practices, such as denying coverage because of a prior health problem, or charging more to those who are sick.

Even if Baucus can't get

Republican support, the plan already reflects some major Republican priorities. For example, Baucus opted not to include a government insurance plan to compete with private carriers.

"I am very optimistic that we are going to be able to pass a bill that will get us to 60 votes," said Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson, a Finance member. "I didn't feel it a week-and-a-half ago, but I'm very optimistic now." Obama's speech last week "hit it head on," said Nelson, adding that the administration has also been responsive to his concerns about cutting private insurance plans operating through Medicare.

But Baucus has work to do to secure the support of other Democrats on his committee, as several made clear when they left a meeting with the chairman late Monday. Sen. Ron Wyden said he was concerned that not enough financial help was being provided to help low-income people buy coverage. Sen. John Kerry said he thought some of the fees Baucus intends to level on sectors of the medical industry were excessive, though he declined to say which ones.

The action is being closely watched by Democrats in the House of Representatives, many of whom want to see the direction the Senate Finance Committee takes before moving forward with floor votes on their bill, which three House committees approved in July. The legislation came under fierce attack during Congress' August recess at town halls and on talk radio. House Democratic leaders have organized a series of caucus-wide meetings this week and next to focus on specific pieces of the bill. Meetings are being held this week on a possible new government-run insurance plan, needs of seniors and small businesses, and next week on containing costs. The aim is to address concerns raised by lawmakers and their constituents, and get input on final bill language.

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YALE KILLING

Continued from Page B1

Police on Monday sought to calm fears on the Ivy League campus, saying the death of 24-year-old Annie Le was a targeted act but would not say why anyone would want to kill the young woman just days before she was to be married.

"We're not believing it's a random act," said officer Joe Avery, a police spokesman. No one else is in danger, he said, though he would not provide details other than to say that police believe no other students were involved. He also denied broadcast reports that police had a suspect in custody. Yale officials said the building where Le worked would reopen under increased security. Still, some students worried about their safety.

"I'm not walking at nights by myself anymore," said student Natoya Peart, 21, of Jamaica. "It could happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere." Michael Vishnevetsky, 21, of New York, said he did not feel safe when he made a late trip to his lab Sunday in a different building. "It felt very different than how I usually felt," he said.

Twenty-year-old Muneeb Sultan said he's shocked that a killing could take place in a secure Yale building. "It's a frightening idea that there's a murderer walking around on campus," said Sultan, a chemistry student. Police found Le's body about 5 p.m. Sunday, the day she was to marry Columbia University graduate student Jonathan Widawsky, lovingly referred to on her Facebook page as "my best friend." The couple met as undergraduates at the University of Rochester and were eagerly awaiting their

planned wedding on Long Island.

Police have said Widawsky is not a suspect and helped detectives in their investigation.

The building where the body was found is part of the university medical school complex about a mile from Yale's main campus. It is accessible to Yale personnel with identification cards. Some 75 video surveillance cameras monitor all doorways.

The body was found in the basement in the wall chase — a deep recess where utilities and cables run between floors. The basement houses rodents, mostly mice, used for scientific testing by multiple Yale researchers, said Robert Alpern, dean of the Yale University School of Medicine.

Le was part of a research team headed by her faculty adviser, Anton Bennett. According to its Web site, the Bennett Laboratory was involved in enzyme research that could have implications in cancer, diabetes and muscular dystrophy. Bennett declined to comment Monday on the lab or Le's involvement with it.

Le's office was on the third floor of the five-story building, where authorities found her wallet, keys, money and purse.

Campus officials have said that the security network recorded Le entering the building by swiping her ID card about 10 a.m. Tuesday. She was never seen leaving.

Yale closed the building Monday so police could complete their investigation, according to a message sent to Yale students and staff. Scientists are being allowed in only to conduct essential

research projects, and only under the supervision of a police officer.

Police activity continued at the crime scene early Monday evening, as uniformed officers with police dogs and workers wearing white suits to protect them from hazardous materials went in and out of the building.

When the building reopens, there will be extra security both inside and outside, said Yale Secretary and Vice President Linda Lorimer.

Police are analyzing what they call "a large amount" of physical evidence.

A friend said Monday that Le never showed signs of worry about her own personal safety at work, though she did express concerns about crime in New Haven in an article she wrote in February for the medical school's magazine. "If she was concerned about (it) she would have said something to someone, and they would have known," Jennifer Simpson told CBS' "The Early Show." "And Jon (her fiance) would have known, her family would have known, friends would have known."

Simpson said Le, a pharmacology student from Placerville, California, was friendly to everyone.

"She was a people person," Simpson said. "She loved people. She loved life. We just can't imagine anybody wanting to harm Annie."

In the Sierra foothills community east of Sacramento where Le went to high school, she was seen as a high achiever who knew early on that she wanted a career in medicine.

In a Union Mine High School yearbook from 2003, Le said her long-term goal was to become a laboratory pathologist and said it would



Yale University Chaplain Sharon Kugler, right, consoles student Natalie Powers while University President Richard C. Levin, left, looks on during a moment of silence at the candlelight vigil in New Haven, Conn., Monday, Sept 14, 2009. Powers is the roommate of Annie Le, whose body was found Sunday stuffed inside a wall in the high-security laboratory building where she worked.

Associated Press

require about 12 years of higher education.

"I just hope that all that hard work is going to pay off and I'm really going to enjoy my job," she said.

No one answered the door Monday at the Widawskys' gray, ranch-style home in Huntington, New York.

"He is a very nice young man," next-door neighbor George Mayer said of Jonathan Widawsky, a 24-year-old seeking his doctorate in physics. "His

family, they're all just wonderful people — very, very nice people."

The university planned a candlelight vigil for Monday evening.

The death is the first killing at Yale since the unsolved December 1998 death of Yale student Suzanne Jovin. The popular 21-year-old senior was stabbed 17 times in New Haven's East Rock neighborhood, about 2 miles from campus. □

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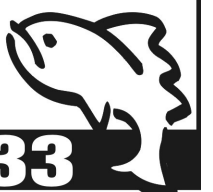
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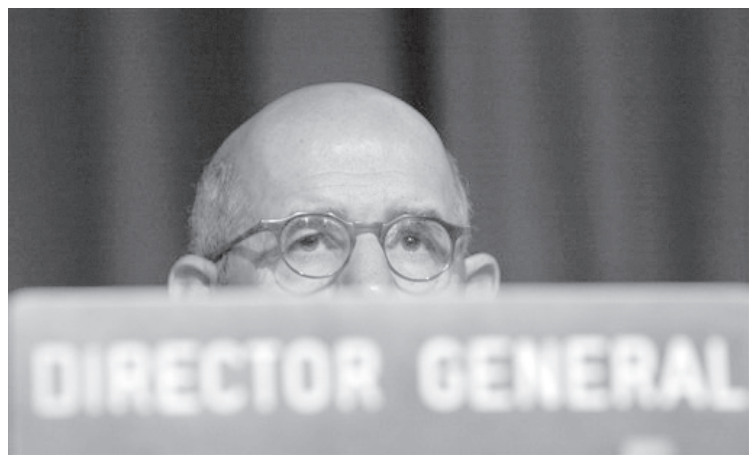


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Iran to meet world powers, first talks in a year



German ISAF soldiers look out of their jeep during a patrol in a convoy in the area of Feyzabad, east of Kunduz, Afghanistan, Sunday, Sept. 13, 2009.

Associated Press

GEORGE JAHN

Associated Press Writer

VIENNA (AP) — Iran warned the U.S. and Israel it will repel any attack — while also tamping down tensions

by agreeing to meet with Washington and other world powers more than a year after talks broke down over Tehran's refusal to curb its nuclear activities.

The U.S., Iran and European Union expressed hope the Oct. 1 talks could lead to substantive negotiations — despite Iranian warnings it would not even discuss meeting U.N. Security Council demands that it freeze uranium enrichment.

But White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said enrichment — which can make both nuclear fuel and fissile warhead material — “would be part of the discussion,” along with Tehran’s “illicit nuclear weapons program.”

The prime minister of Israel, Iran’s most bitter foe, was quoted as urging tougher action, including additional sanctions to cripple Tehran’s economy and turn Iranians against the government.

Iran also sounded a tough note on Monday — accusing the U.S. of amassing “frightening and dreadful weaponry in ... the Persian Gulf” and warning Israel and the United States

that it is ready to defend itself against any attack on Iranian nuclear facilities.

The EU’s chief diplomat, Javier Solana, announced Iran’s readiness to follow up an offer last week from the six powers for a new round of talks. Solana said the meeting could set the stage for progress in resolving the standoff over the Islamic Republic’s refusal to freeze uranium enrichment and heed other U.N. Security Council demands.

Iranian nuclear chief Ali Akhbar Salehi, who issued the warning over military action, was more moderate in later comments, telling reporters that Iran is “open to discussion” on nuclear rights and obligations in a general context, even though it would not bargain over enrichment, which he called “our sovereign right.”

In an allusion to President Barack Obama’s stated goals of

global nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament, and offer to negotiate with Iran without conditions, Salehi said that if those aspirations “are translated into deeds, then the environment will be conducive to future dialogue.”

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu confirmed the U.S. would be sending a representative to the meeting with Solana and Iranian nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili.

“This is an important first step,” Chu said in Vienna for the general conference of the 150-nation International Atomic Energy Agency, which began Monday.

Solana spokeswoman Cristina Gallach said representatives of Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany are also expected.

Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt, whose country heads the rotating EU presidency, warned against undue expectations, considering the divide between Tehran and the six nations on nuclear and other issues.

“The meeting itself is a positive step, yes, but how positive it remains to be seen,” he said.

The talks would be the first since a 2008 session in Geneva foundered over Iran’s refusal to discuss nuclear enrichment — despite a U.S. decision to send a representative to the talks in a break with past policy.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Ian Kelly said Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs William Burns — who was at the Geneva talks — would again represent the U.S.

“The point of all this is to sit down with the Iranians and explain directly, face to face, the choice that they have,” Kelly said.

“They can go down one path, which leads to integration with the international community, or they can continue down another path which leads to isolation. And that’s the path that we’re concerned that they’re on now, because they’re not meeting their obligations to the international community.” □

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R	THE ORPHAN
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matinee:	12:30 3:30 late show: 11:30
PG	SHORTS
daily:	5:30 7:30 9:45
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PG-13	THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE
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PG-13	TYLER PERRY'S I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF NEW
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PG-13	G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF THE COBRA
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Bin Laden appeals to Americans to end war

PAUL SCHEMM

Associated Press Writer

CAIRO (AP) — Osama bin Laden said in a new audiotape that President Barack Obama's strategy in Afghanistan is "hopeless" and called on Americans to resolve the conflict with al-Qaida by ending the war there and breaking the U.S. alliance with Israel.

In the message marking the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the al-Qaida leader avoided his usual rhetoric of jihad and instead took a more analytical tone, claiming to explain to the U.S. public the root causes of the conflict — which he said were the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

But analysts said Monday that the message's tone and its unusually short length — at only 11 minutes, far shorter than other videos al-Qaida has released to mark the anniversary — indicated how al-Qaida was struggling to maintain attention and relevance eight years after its most shattering terror attacks. "You might interpret this as a sign of weakness, the suggestion being that they don't really want to fight the U.S.," Jeremy Binnie, an analyst with Jane's Terrorism and Insurgency Center, said of bin Laden's tone.

Arabs and Muslims' more positive feelings toward the new U.S. president are believed to have helped deflate al-Qaida's anti-American rhetoric, which found a receptive audience during the administration of former President George W. Bush, who was widely resented in the region. Also, the Iraq war — once a main front for al-Qaida's militants — has become less prominent in the public eye as violence eased over the past two years and U.S. troops reduce their presence.

The main front now is Afghanistan, where the Obama administration is contemplating sending more troops to battle al-Qaida's

ally, the Taliban. Gen. Stanley McChrystal, commander of U.S. and NATO forces said Friday he sees no signs of a major al-Qaida presence in the country.

In the audiotape, posted late Thursday on Islamic militant Web sites, bin Laden sought to depict Obama as merely continuing the policies of Bush and former Vice President Dick Cheney.

"If you end the (Afghan) war, so be it, but otherwise we will continue the war of attrition against you," he said, addressing the American people. "You are waging a hopeless and losing war, a war in which the end is not visible on the horizon."

But bin Laden used most of the message to chide Americans for failing to understand the reason for al-Qaida's campaign against the United States.

"The cause of our disagreement with you is your support to your Israeli allies who occupy our land of Palestine," he said, adding that this support "pushed us to undertake" the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

He argued that Washington — even under Obama — was under the thrall of "neoconservatives and the Israeli lobby." He said Obama and White House officials "act like Cheney and Bush

and promote the previous policies of fear to market the interests of big companies" and pull Americans into wars that he said have bankrupted the United States.

If America reconsiders its alliance with Israel, he said, al-Qaida will respond on "sound and just bases."

The Saudi construction magnate's son-turned "holy warrior" and his deputies have frequently sought to wrap al-Qaida in the Palestinian cause, seeking to draw support in the Arab world, where the issue is one of the public's top concerns.

However the Palestinians themselves — even the militant Hamas organization — have distanced themselves from al-Qaida and cracked down on those espousing a similar extremist ideology inside the Gaza Strip.

The short 11-minute message was in sharp contrast to past Sept. 11 anniversary messages. In 2007, al-Qaida marked the anniversary with multiple videos by several of its leaders, including bin Laden's deputy Ayman al-Zawahiri. In 2008, it issued a massive 90-minute opus summing up seven years of struggle around the world. Evan Kohlman, a terrorism expert at globalterroralert.com, said al-Qaida appears



An image made from video, provided by IntelCenter Monday Sept. 14, 2009, shows a frame from the video released by Al-Qaida showing a still image of Osama bin Laden. According to a transcript of the tape released by the terrorist organizations media wing, the Al-Qaida leader says President Barack Obama is "powerless" to stop the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. "This image was provided via the IntelCenter, which is a private contractor working for intelligence agencies."

Associated Press

to have been unable to come up with a way to confront the greater popularity of the new U.S. president. Obama has pursued a policy of seeking better ties with Arabs and Muslim, giving a landmark speech in Cairo in June, moving to withdraw U.S. troops from Iraq and taking a somewhat harder stance on Israel in the peace process.

"I would have thought for Sept. 11 he could have said something more ground breaking and significant," said Kohlman, suggesting that people were losing interest in the messages over time.

"If bin Laden really had something important to say now, he's losing his opportunity to reach people," he said. □

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Indonesia's Aceh province to allow stoning for adulterers



Muslim women are seen in Banda Aceh, Aceh province, Indonesia on Monday, Sept. 14, 2009. Adulterers can be stoned to death and homosexuality is punishable by steep prison terms under a new law passed unanimously by lawmakers in Indonesia's devoutly Muslim Aceh province Monday.

Associated Press

FAKHRURRADZIE GADE province voted unanimously that adulterers can be sentenced to death by stoning, **Associated Press Writer** BANDA ACEH, Indonesia (AP) — Lawmakers in a just months after voters devoutly Muslim Indonesian overwhelmingly chose to

Classes resume after China syringe attacks

BEIJING (AP) — Schools have reopened in western China's Urumqi city after being closed for 10 days in the wake a spate of syringe attacks caused panic and protests in the streets.

Local authorities closed the schools and imposed traffic controls in the city Sept. 4 after mass demonstrations by tens thousands of Han Chinese against what they said was a government that could not guarantee their safety against the attacks.

All primary and middle school classes resumed Monday, the official Xinhua News Agency said late Monday.

More than 500 people complained of being stabbed by hypodermic needles, but only 171 people showed evidence of being pricked, and tests of samples from victims found evidence of infections transmitted, Xinhua said.

Qian Jun, head of the disease control and biological security office with the Academy of Military Medical Sciences, said there were no examples of toxic chemicals or the HIV virus. Around 250 victims have been checked and found to have no wounds or illnesses, it said.

Qian said that victims should be offered psychological counseling as many are still afraid of infections, according to Xinhua.

The Urumqi General Hospital has arranged three psychological experts and opened four counseling hot lines, it said.

On Saturday, the Intermediate People's Court in Urumqi

throw conservative Islamic parties out of power.

With only weeks to go before a new government led by a moderate party takes over in Aceh province, hard-liners still in control of the regional parliament pushed through legislation Monday to impose steep punishments for adultery and homosexuality.

The chairman of the 69-seat house asked if the bill could be passed into law and members answered in unison: "Yes, it can." Some members of the moderate Democrat Party, which will lead the incoming government, voiced reservations, but none of them voted against the bill.

Human rights groups said the law violates international treaties signed by Indonesia. The province's deputy governor also opposed the

legislation, saying it needed more careful consideration because it imposes a new form of capital punishment.

The Aceh Party is also believed to have a less strict interpretation of Islamic law, or Shariah, and some activists expressed hope that once in power, they would amend or tone down the law. Others were considering contesting the bill in court in the capital, Jakarta.

Aceh, where Islam first arrived in Indonesia from Saudi Arabia centuries ago, enjoys semiautonomy from the central government. A long-running Islamic insurgency in the province ended in 2005 in the wake of the Indian Ocean tsunami that killed 130,000 there.

A version of Shariah that was introduced in Aceh in 2001

already bans gambling and drinking alcohol, and makes it compulsory for women to wear headscarves. Dozens of public canings have been carried out by the local Shariah police against violators of that law.

The majority of Indonesia's nearly 200 million Muslims practice a moderate form of the faith, and surveys suggest they do not support such hardline interpretations of the Quran, the Muslim holy book.

Stoning is legally sanctioned in varying forms in Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and parts of Nigeria. Illegal stonings have also been reported in recent years in Iraq and Somalia. But its use is a point of contention among Islamic scholars.

The new Indonesian law also imposes tough sentences and fines, to be paid in kilograms of gold, for rape and pedophilia, but the most hotly disputed article was on adultery and states that offenders can be punished by a minimum of 100 lashings and a maximum of stoning to death.

It also imposes severe prison terms for other behavior considered morally unacceptable, including homosexuality, which will be punishable by public lashings and more than eight years in prison.

The bill violates national and international treaties signed by Indonesia protecting the rights of minorities and women, said a gay rights activist in Aceh who requested anonymity because he feared for his safety.

"It's discriminatory, and it's saddening, but we are quite sure members of civil society who are concerned with human rights will not sit by silently," the activist said, adding that he hopes the new moderate leadership in the province will overturn the law after taking power next month.

Aceh Vice Governor Muhamad Nazar said that even though his office opposed the clause on stoning to death it has no legal power to block it. "Whatever law is passed we have to enforce it," he said.



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, Shi Xinli, president of the Municipal Intermediate People's Court of Urumqi, speaks at a press conference after the court hearings in Urumqi, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009. The court sentenced three people to up to 15 years in prison Saturday in the first trials over a series of mysterious syringe attacks that led to mass protests against the local government.

Associated Press

sentenced three people to up to 15 years in prison in the first trials over the attacks. The three were all ethnic Uighurs, members of a mostly Muslim minority who are culturally distinct from China's majority Han group who dominate life in Urumqi and positions of power.

Uighurs make up the majority of the population of the wider region of Xinjiang, a border province that has long been at the fringes of Chinese life.

One person was sentenced for stabbing a woman and the other two for robbing a taxi driver with a syringe.



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U.S. troops raid Somali town controlled by fighters

ANNE GEARAN
MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN
Associated Press Writers

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Foreign troops in helicopters strafed a car Monday in a Somali town controlled by Islamist insurgents, killing two men and capturing two others who were wounded, witnesses said. U.S. military officials said American forces were involved in the raid.

The commando-style action took place in a village near Barawe amid growing fears that al-Qaida is gaining a foothold in this lawless nation.

Two U.S. military officials said forces from the U.S. Joint Special Operations Command were involved. The officials gave no details about the raid or its target, and they spoke on condition of anonymity because the operation was secret.

Many experts fear Somalia is becoming a haven for al-Qaida, a place for terrorists to train and gather strength — much like Afghanistan in the 1990s. The U.N.-backed government, with support from African Union peacekeepers, holds only a few blocks of Mogadishu, the war-ravaged capital.

Last year, U.S. missiles killed reputed al-Qaida commander Aden Hashi Ayro — the first major success after a string of U.S. military attacks in 2008.

Like much of Somalia, Barawe and its surrounding villages are controlled by the militant group al-Shabab, which the U.S. accuses of having ties to al-Qaida. Al-Shabab, which has foreign fighters in its ranks, seeks to overthrow the government and impose a strict form of Islam in Somalia.

Witness Abdi Ahmed said six helicopters buzzed the village before two of the aircraft opened fire. After the helicopters fired, soldiers in military fatigues got out and left with the two wounded men.

“There was only a burning vehicle and two dead

bodies lying beside it,” said Mohamed Ali Aden, a bus driver who drove past the burnt-out car minutes after the attack, some 155 miles south of Mogadishu.

Somalia’s weak government has very few resources and does not have helicopters or other modern equipment.

Witness Dahir Ahmed said the helicopters took off from a warship flying a French flag, but that could not be confirmed and French military spokesman Christophe Prazuck denied the attack was a French operation.

“They are not French helicopters,” he said. France previously has launched commando raids to rescue French nationals.

The U.S. government — haunted by the deadly 1993 U.S. military assault in Mogadishu chronicled in

the 1999 book “Black Hawk Down,” made into a 2001 film — is trying to neutralize the growing terrorist threat without sending in troops.

Somalia has been ravaged by violence and anarchy since warlords overthrew dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991 and then turned on each other. A moderate Islamist was elected president in January in hopes that he could unite the country’s feuding factions, but the violence has continued unabated.

Mogadishu sees near-daily battles between government and insurgent forces. Tens of thousands of civilians have been killed.

Somalia’s lawlessness also has allowed piracy to flourish off its coast, making the Gulf of Aden one of the most dangerous waterways in the world. □



A wounded man is brought to Madina hospital in Mogadishu, Somalia after he was wounded during skirmish between Somali government soldiers backed by those of the AU and Islamist militia in Mogadishu, Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009. Fighting between government soldiers and Islamic insurgents killed at least 15 people in central Somalia on Thursday as the warring sides tried to gain ground in strategic towns. Witnesses also reported seeing troops from neighboring Ethiopia roll into the country — a development that would enrage insurgents who saw Ethiopia as an occupying force after it helped drive out Islamists in 2006.

Associated Press

18 Pakistani women die in stampede for free flour

women and girls died in the ensuing rush. Mohammad Amin Khan of Karachi Civil Hospital said some of the women had suffocated and that there were at least 20 bodies.

“Hundreds of women were pushing to enter into the small hall, and guards started beating us to get the place cleared,” said 30-year-old Kulsoom, who gave only one name and ended up among the many wounded. “I fell down and was being crushed. My heart was missing beats, and I thought I was dying.” Panicked relatives streamed into the hospital, while others brought limp bodies in the backs of trucks or in their arms. Some women

wailed while laying on stretchers.

The flour giveaway was organized by a private donor who Ahmad said was detained for not giving police prior notice of the event. Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani ordered an inquiry.

Karachi, a southern port city, is Pakistan’s commercial heart, but many of its residents live in dire conditions.

“Poverty is on the rise, there is a desperation among people,” local government official Javed Hanif said. “Naturally, when people are frustrated, whenever they get such an opportunity, they try to grab the maximum.” □



A Pakistani woman mourns over the death of people, who died in a stampede, at a local hospital in Karachi, Pakistan on Monday Sept. 14, 2009. At least 18 women and girls waiting to get free flour in Pakistan’s southern city of Karachi died when the crowd around them swelled and a stampede occurred, officials said.

Associated Press

ASHRAF KHAN

Associated Press Writer

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — At least 18 women and girls died when a crowd waiting for handouts of flour swelled and panicked in Pakistan’s most populous city, officials said.

The stampede in Karachi came during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, a traditional time for charitable acts including giving away food. Pakistan’s battered economy, combined with higher than usual prices for staples such as sugar due to alleged hoarding by

producers, has made this Ramadan a particularly needy time for the country’s largely impoverished population of 175 million.

At times, however, the food giveaways have turned rowdy and dangerous.

Monday’s stampede occurred in a small building with narrow passages. As more women entered to get the flour, some panicked and guards used strong-arm tactics to clear the building, officials and witnesses said.

Karachi police chief Wasim Ahmad said at least 18



SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Federer stunned by del Potro in U.S. Open final

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Juan Martin del Potro ended Roger Federer's run of dominance at the U.S. Open on Monday, stunning the top-ranked Swiss great in five sets to win in his first Grand Slam final.

The 20-year-old Argentine prevailed 3-6, 7-6 (5), 4-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2 to snap Federer's streak of five straight U.S. Open titles. The sixth-seeded del Potro had not beaten Federer in their six previous encounters.

Federer had won 40 consecutive matches at Flushing Meadows. He was seeking to become the first man since Bill Tilden in 1920-25 to win the American championship six straight times and the first man since



Juan Martin del Potro, of Argentina, reacts after winning the men's finals championship over Roger Federer, of Switzerland, at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Monday, Sept. 14, 2009.

Associated Press

Rod Laver in 1969 to win three straight majors in a season.

Normally so cool, so consistent, so in control of his emotions and his matches, Federer let the title slip from his grasp.

Two points from victory against inexperienced, unheralded del Potro, two points from a record-extending 16th Grand Slam overall, Federer, quite simply, fell apart.

He railed at the chair umpire. His legs grew weary. His double-faults mounted. He could not figure out a way to stop the 6-foot-6 del Potro from pounding forehand after forehand past him. In a result as surprising for who lost as how it happened, del Potro came back to win his first Grand Slam title.

Continued on Page B12

IOC member said Obama's absence would be 'noticed'



President Barack Obama arrives on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Monday, Sept. 14, 2009, after a day trip to Wall Street in New York.

Associated Press

NANCY ARMOUR

AP National Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — President Barack Obama's absence at the vote to pick the host of the 2016 Olympics would be "noticed," IOC member Dick Pound said Monday, but he's not sure how it would

affect Chicago's chances to bring the Summer Olympics back to the United States for the first time since 1996.

"I don't think there's an IOC member on the planet that wouldn't love to meet your president. He's a transformational figure in the world

today," Pound said. "If he can be persuaded to go, I think it makes a huge difference."

Chicago is in a tight contest with Rio de Janeiro, Madrid and Tokyo, and the presence of world leaders has been instrumental in the most recent votes. Then British Prime Minister Tony Blair helped London land the 2012 Games when he met IOC members in Singapore in 2005, and Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin traveled to Guatemala City in 2007 to push Sochi's winning bid for the 2014 Winter Games.

Obama has been an ardent supporter of his adopted hometown's bid for the Olympics, videotaping four messages for IOC members in recent months. But he called IOC president Jacques Rogge — personally — last week to say his priority right now must be the fight to reform the health care system.

The White House is sending first lady Michelle Obama, a Chicago native who is wildly popular in her own right, to Copenhagen ahead of the Oct. 2 vote. Valerie Jarrett, one

of Obama's top advisers and former vice chair of Chicago 2016, will also travel to Denmark.

Brazil's president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva already has said he'll be in Copenhagen, as will King Juan Carlos of Spain. Japan has invited incoming Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama and Crown Prince Naruhito to attend.

"The risk is, your competitors are going to say 'Oh well, you know, he's too busy to come, but he sent his wife.' How that would play, I don't know," Pound said.

Send both Obamas, though, and it would be a "pretty dynamic duo." But it's the president that would impress the IOC members most — and have the biggest impact.

"If you have a popular and transformational leader and you don't use him, you're not maximizing your chances," Pound said. "To the extent that the mayor and Pat Ryan can twist the presidential arm, they should do that. I think it could make a huge difference." □

Monday Night Football

Brady rallies Patriots past T.O. and the Bills, 25-24

By BARRY WILNER

AP Football Writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Back on center stage, Tom Brady acted like, well, the NFL's biggest star.

It seemed to take forever, though.

A year after being sidelined with torn knee ligaments, Brady resembled a rusty game manager more than the invincible record-setting quarterback who guided the Patriots to a perfect 2007 regular season. Yet, he threw two touchdown passes in the final 2:06 as New England beat the Buffalo Bills 25-24 on Monday night.

When the spotlight hit, Brady lived up to the advance billing. But he needed help in the form of Leodis McKelvin's fumble on a kickoff return after the Patriots pulled within five points.

Placekicker Stephen Gostkowski, of all people, recovered at the Buffalo 31. Brady needed three plays before hitting Benjamin Watson over the middle for the decisive 16-yard touchdown with 50 seconds to go.

Just 1:16 earlier, he found Watson on a similar play for an 18-yard score. It was vintage Brady, who threw for a record 50 TDs two years ago in leading New England to a perfect record.

That season was spoiled in Brady's last full game that counted, the February 2008 Super Bowl loss to the New York Giants. He was hurt in last season's opener.

Now he's back, although for much of the game he and the Patriots played

conservatively, even passively. Indeed, Buffalo seemed ready to break an 11-game losing streak against New England and win for the first time in Gillette Stadium.

Then came the late fireworks, demonstrating that Tom Terrific hasn't lost his touch.

"That's not how we drew it up, but I'll take it," Brady said. "We did a lot of things poorly but we got the win." Buffalo did a lot of things well, but got a shocking loss.

Coming off a 1-4 preseason in which the offense flopped, the Bills made plenty of big plays.

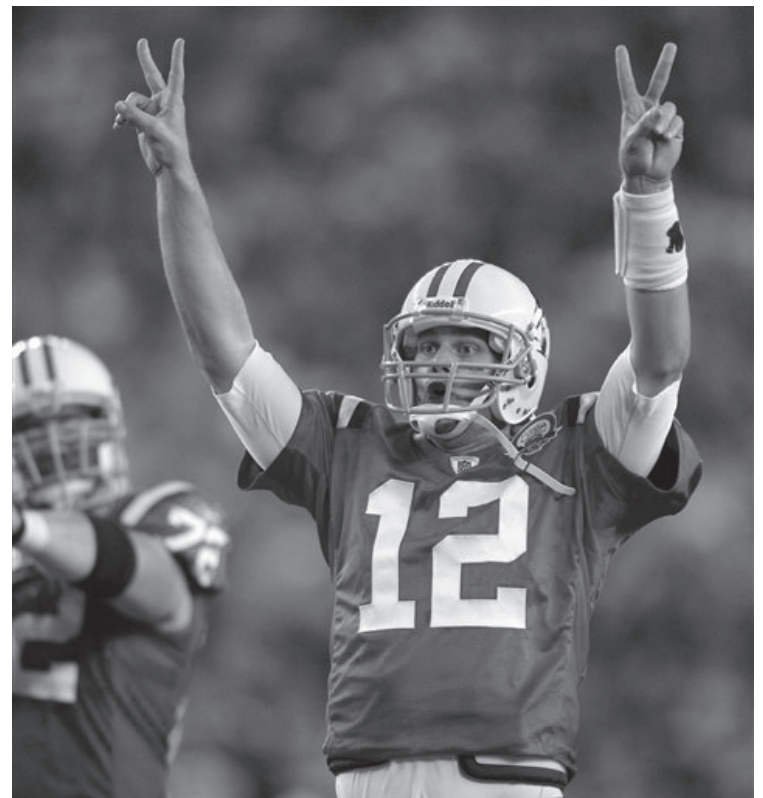
Trent Edwards outperformed Brady for much of the game and threw for two scores. A

10-yard screen pass TD to Fred Jackson put Buffalo ahead 24-13 with 5:32 to go — even though its new spotlight-grabber, Terrell Owens, barely caused a ripple. Owens had two catches for 46 yards.

When the offense wasn't doing the damage, defensive end Aaron Schobel was rambling 26 yards with an interception for a first-half TD.

Still, these are the Patriots, who have not lost a regular-season game with Brady at quarterback since Dec. 10, 2006.

And they still have all those threats in the passing game, from Randy Moss (12 catches, 141 yards) to Wes Welker (12, 93) to tight end Watson (6, 77, two TDs).



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) celebrates his go-ahead touchdown pass to Benjamin Watson against the Buffalo Bills in the fourth quarter during an NFL football game, Monday, Sept. 14, 2009, in Foxborough, Mass. The Patriots won 25-24.

Associated Press

Although Brady had those impressive stats, he never looked deep and struggled to convert key plays until the final moments. Perhaps that big hit he took on his shoulder from Albert Haynesworth 2 1/2 weeks ago limited Brady.

And maybe his team was uncomfortable in the throwback red uniforms or being introduced as the Boston Patriots for the first of the NFL's tribute games to the old AFL. Something wasn't right in Foxborough — until the end. □



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Serena Williams, left, of the United States, and her sister Venus examine the championship trophy after winning the women's doubles championship over Cara Black, of Zimbabwe, and Liezel Huber, of the United States, at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Monday, Sept. 14, 2009.

Associated Press

U.S. OPEN

Continued from Page B10

"Can't have them all," Federer said.

He had won 33 of his previous 34 Grand Slam matches. And he has made the final at 17 of the past 18 Grand Slam tournaments, 21 overall.

After handing No. 3 Rafael Nadal the most lopsided loss of his Grand Slam career in the semifinals Sunday, del Potro came back the next day and rattled Federer.

Until Monday, Federer had two wins and five losses in Grand Slam finals against

his nemesis, Nadal, and was unbeaten from 13 finals against everyone else. Somehow, del Potro never seemed intimidated by the setting or the man many consider the greatest tennis player in history.

The usually unflappable Federer argued with chair umpire Jake Garner during a changeover, using a profanity and saying, "Don't tell me to be quiet, OK? When I want to talk, I talk."

Del Potro, meanwhile, managed to have the time of his young life, high-fiving

front-row fans after winning one point, and reveling in the football-style serenades of "Ole!" ringing through the stadium.

The 4-hour, 6-minute match was the first U.S. Open final to go five sets since 1999, and there were no early signs to indicate it would be this competitive — much less end with del Potro down on his back, chest heaving, tears welling, a Grand Slam trophy soon to be in his arms.

Del Potro is the first man from Argentina to win the U.S. Open since Guillermo Vilas in 1977. Vilas was in the stands Monday, sitting one row behind actor Jack Nicklaus.

One simple indication of the difference in age and status of the two finalists: The 28-year-old Federer's guest box was full, with friends such as rock-star couple Gwen Stefani and

Gavin Rossdale, and Vogue editor Anna Wintour seated alongside Federer's parents, wife and agent. Only three of the 15 available seats were occupied in del Potro's box.

Federer took a 3-0 lead in 15 minutes, winning one point by racing about 5 feet wide of the doubles alley for a defensive backhand, then sprinting the other way for a cross-court forehand passing winner that he celebrated by yelling and shaking his fists.

He even took time to watch a replay on a stadium video screen. Not quite the sort of trick shot Federer pulled against Novak Djokovic in the semifinals — a back-to-the-net, between-the-legs, cross-court passing winner to get to match point — but pretty spectacular, nonetheless.

But del Potro eventually got going, swinging more freely

and taking full advantage of Federer's serving woes: 11 double-faults and a first-serve percentage of only 50.

Used to traveling without a full-time coach, Federer generally is quite adept at making mid-match adjustments and dealing with opponents' switches in strategy. But it was del Potro who realized he needed to put full belief in the strength of his 100 mph (161 kph) forehands and not worry about too much else. That tactic worked, and Federer never found a way to counter it, losing leads in the second set and the fourth set. He was up 5-4 in the fourth, and at 15-30 on del Potro's serve, Federer needed only two more points to equal Tilden's record.

Del Potro held steady there, and Federer would never come that close again. □

Guerrero hits record HR at new Yankee Stadium

NEW YORK (AP) — The Yankee Stadium record for home runs in a season has been broken with eight games to spare.

Los Angeles Angels slugger Vladimir Guerrero hit the 216th home run in 73 games at the new \$1.5 billion ballpark, one more than the high set at the previous stadium in 2004.

Guerrero's second-inning drive off Joba Chamberlain on Monday was quickly followed by Nick Swisher's third-inning shot against Angels starter Jered Weaver. The only years 200 homers were hit at the old Yankee Stadium were 2004, 2000 (209) and 2005 (206), according to STATS LLC. Yankee Stadium topped the majors in homers entering the night — Rangers Ballpark was second at 197. The major league record of 303 homers were hit at Denver's Coors Field in 1999. □



Los Angeles Angels' Vladimir Guerrero reacts after hitting a home run during the second inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees on Monday, Sept. 14, 2009, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Associated Press

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Venezuela refuta acusación de fiscal EEUU de ayuda nuclear Irán

WASHINGTON (Reuters)

- Venezuela negó estar ayudando a Irán en el campo nuclear y el que bancos venezolanos tengan vínculos financieros con instituciones iraníes, refutando acusaciones hechas por el fiscal federal de Nueva York, Robert Morgenthau, según una carta divulgada el lunes.

El embajador venezolano en Estados Unidos, Bernardo Alvarez, envió la misiva a Morgenthau en la que califica sus acusaciones de “vergonzosas” y de ser parte de una “campaña sucia” contra el Gobierno del presidente Hugo Chávez, un férreo crítico de Washington.

Morgenthau dijo la semana pasada que Irán se aprovecha del sistema financiero venezolano para escapar de sanciones internacionales y poder adquirir materiales para su programa de tecnología nuclear y el desarrollo de misiles. Entre las acusaciones, hechas por el fiscal en una charla en el centro de investigación Brookings Institution y luego en un artículo en el Wall Street Journal, afirmó que misteriosas fábricas iraníes en zonas rurales de Venezuela son idóneas para producir armas.

Como respuesta, el representante diplomático de Venezuela en Washington le escribió: “Las acusaciones que usted presenta en su exposición son simplemente vergonzosas y carentes de fundamento”.

“Lo que usted refiere en su discurso como fábricas



Foto de archivo del vicescanciller venezolano, Jorge Valero (izquierda en la imagen), junto al embajador venezolano en Estados Unidos, Bernardo Alvarez, antes de una votación sobre los miembros no permanentes del Consejo de Seguridad de Naciones Unidas en la sede del organismo en Nueva York, 16 oct 2006. REUTERS/Jeff Zelevansky

sospechosas proveen a los venezolanos comunes de alimentos, equipos agrícolas y de transporte, materiales de construcción, productos plásticos, bicicletas, entre otros bienes de consumo”, agregó en la carta a Morgenthau, cuya copia fue obtenida por Reuters.

“Sus prejuicios lo llevan a decir con toda ligereza que el Gobierno venezolano está lleno de terroristas”, acotó. Morgenthau dijo que viene investigando la amenaza que representan crecientes lazos financieros entre Venezuela e Irán e indicó que en un mes anunciará los resultados.

En un discurso el martes de la semana pasada, Morgenthau

dijo que cree que el Banco Internacional de Desarrollo CA, una unidad del Banco de Desarrollo de Exportación de Irán, mantiene relaciones con bancos venezolanos y panameños para obtener acceso al sistema financiero

estadounidense.

Por otra parte, el fiscal afirmó que Venezuela podría estar explotando sus reservas mineras de uranio para Irán. Si bien Venezuela posee cuantiosos depósitos de uranio, no existe ninguna evidencia

de que el país petrolero planea explotarlos.

El diario Washington Post recogió la advertencia de Morgenthau en una editorial el jueves que preguntaba si el Gobierno del presidente Barack Obama “¿sabe lo que está haciendo Venezuela para asistir a Teherán en su programa de armas?”.

Alvarez aseguró que “Venezuela jamás colaboraría con algún proyecto para ayudar a un país a producir armas de destrucción masiva”.

“Tristemente sus aseveraciones recuerdan a quiénes aseguraban irresponsablemente que existían armas de destrucción masiva en Irak y llevaron a la invasión de ese país que tantas vidas árabes e incluso de estadounidenses ha costado”, agregó.

Chávez, quien sostiene que Estados Unidos pueden atacar militarmente a Venezuela por sus reservas de petróleo, dijo el domingo que está interesado en el desarrollo de la energía nuclear pero sin intenciones de generar una bomba atómica. □

Enviado Honduras dice “fue echado” de sesión ONU

GINEBRA (Reuters) - El embajador de Honduras en Naciones Unidas dijo el lunes que había sido echado de una sesión del Consejo de Derechos Humanos de la ONU en Ginebra, después de que otros países latinoamericanos señalaron que representaba a un régimen “ilegal”.

Luego de un día de confusión que demoró el comienzo de la reunión de tres semanas del cuerpo de 47 naciones, el enviado J. Delmer Urbizo dejó la sala gritando en inglés y español: “We will be back! ¡Volveremos!”

Las dramáticas escenas se produjeron después de que Argentina, Brasil, México y Cuba insistieron en que Delmer Urbizo, que ocupa el puesto de embajador en Ginebra desde hace tres años, no podía quedarse a menos que fuera aprobado por el derrocado presidente Manuel Zelaya.

El presidente del Consejo de Derechos Humanos, el belga Alex Van Meuwen, dijo

al enviado que no podía hablar en respuesta porque Honduras es sólo observador del foro y le pidió que se fuera mientras se evaluaban sus credenciales.

“Fui echado. Me han colocado guardias de seguridad para asegurarse de que me fuera”, dijo Delmer Urbizo a periodistas rodeado de policías de la ONU. “Pero volveremos, no se confundan, y estas personas verán lo que han hecho”.

Más tarde, Van Meeuwen publicó un comunicado señalando que en la tarde del lunes tomó conocimiento de una carta que el Gobierno de Zelaya escribió el 20 de agosto donde indicaba que Delmer Urbizo “no representa al presidente constitucional”.

“Espero tener una aclaración en esta cuestión técnica y organizacional tan sensible, para que el Consejo de Derechos Humanos pueda continuar con su trabajo y seguir el programa que hemos fijado juntos”, declaró. □



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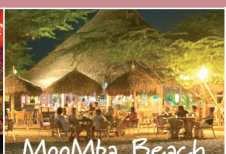
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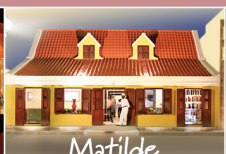
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